■ Lifestyle / D1

Red carpet glamor at the Oscars

■ Across / A18

GMA says Mindoro murders solved

■ Entertainment / C1

Heck, it could be love

■ World / A10

Rebels closing in on Haiti capital

■ Magazine / Q1

The Word according to Bro. Eddie

■ Opinion / A16

Roco pushes for agenda of hope

MV Fortune Express rescues, feeds 559

By Luige del Puerto

IT MAY have paled in comparison to the "fish and loaves" miracle of Jesus Christ, but the crew of the MV Fortune Express, the cargo vessel that rescued at least 559 passengers from the burning SuperFerry 14 on Friday,

MV FORTUNE/ A22

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER Sunday
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

'Da Rock' says he was in the movies, too

By TJ Burgonio

AT least one presidential candidate is ready to match movie-making prowess with triple-threat actor-director-producer Fernando Poe Jr. in the cinema department.

Responding to a taunt from opposition senatorial candidate Juan Ponce Enrile, former

'DA ROCK'/ A21

email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph

Sunday, February 29, 2004 ★★★★ ~~86~~ 92 pages / 10 sections / vol. 19 / no. 83 P18

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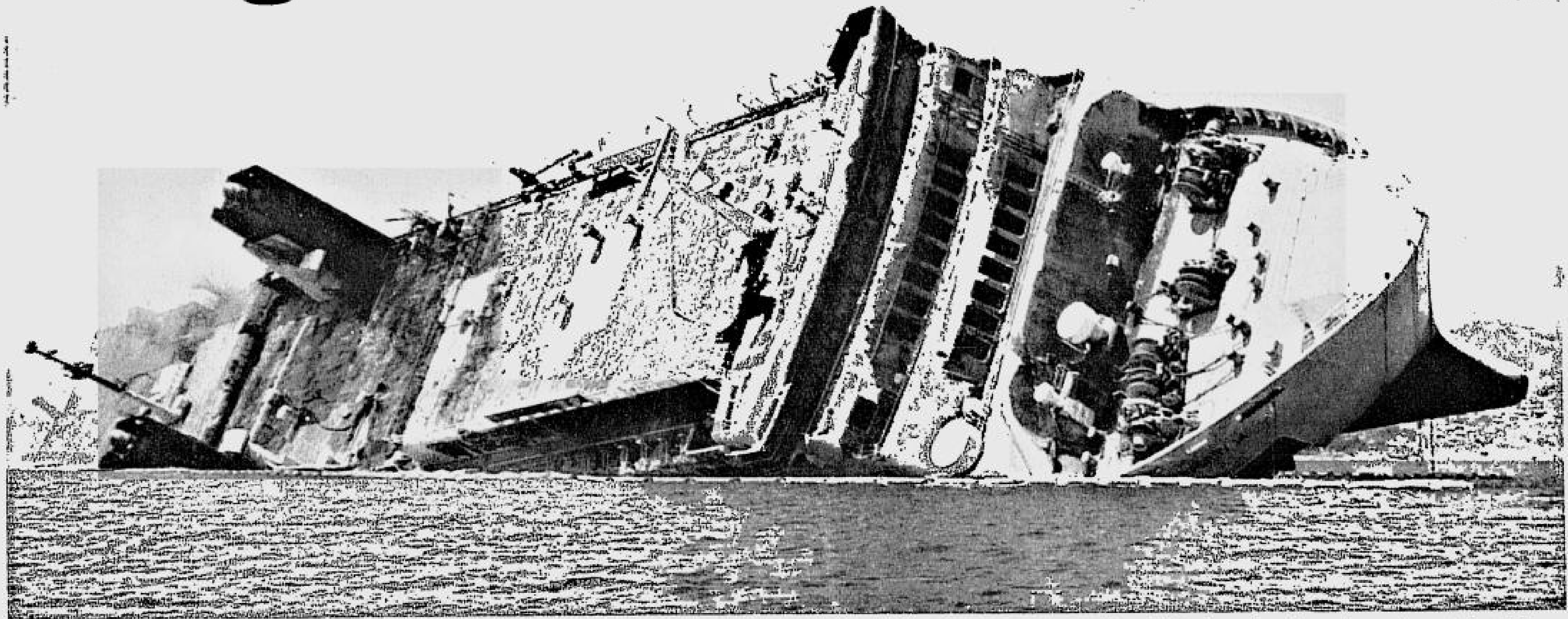
Long wait for the missing



AFP

TOO HOT to handle: Rescue operations cannot begin on SuperFerry 14 now resting on its starboard side off the coast of Mariveles, Bataan, as it was still smoldering hot and smoky as of press time early last night. Officials estimate the missing at between 70 and 112 passengers. Rescue teams also continue to scour coastal communities outside Manila looking for survivors.

Heat in smoldering SuperFerry turns back rescuers

By Leila B. Salaverria

SEARCH and rescue teams of the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) yesterday made it to the bridge of SuperFerry 14, but smoke and intense heat prevented them from getting inside the vessel.

PCG chief Vice Adm. Arthur Gosingan said the 10,000-ton ship, now aground in Sisiman Bay off Mariveles, Bataan, had listed to its right or starboard side but was unlikely to sink.

Gosingan said 12 PCG divers were already inspecting the submerged portion of the ship.

Teams from the Philippine National Police's scene-of-the-crime operations group, explosives experts and arson investigators from the Bureau of Fire Protection were waiting for the gutted vessel to cool down enough for them to get in. *(Related story on Page A8.)*

Gosingan said search and rescue operations would be conducted around the clock for at least seven days.

He said the PCG would borrow equipment, including breathing apparatus and thermal suits, from the National Disaster Coordinating Council (NDCC) for use inside the ship.

An oil spill boom has been put up around the ship in order to protect the surrounding areas.

Gosingan said that when he and his team arrived at the site before noon yesterday, he ordered his men to bombard the ship with water because it was still smoking. He said it appeared that around 60 percent of the vessel had been burned.

SuperFerry 14 caught fire near Corregidor island after an explosion in its

LONG/ A8

Doc-topnotcher leaves for US as nurse

By Volt Contreras

AS A boy, he read and studied by the light of a kerosene lamp and went to classes that would occasionally be disrupted by the sound of gunfire.

Later, he would work in the hospital where Abu Sayyaf bandits snatched hostages for ransom, one of them being his co-worker, nurse Edibora Yap, who was killed during rescue operations for American hostage Gracia Burnham in 2002.

Elmer Reyes Jacinto overcame the tough and troubling conditions of his now infamous hometown of Lamitan, Basilan, to become a consistent scholar and honor student all his life—an achievement that was crowned this week by his topnotcher finish in the medical board exams.

This inspiring story of triumph against the odds is, however, about to turn into another sad statistic of the state of the nation.

Jacinto, who graduated magna cum laude from Our Lady of Fatima University's College of Medicine in Valenzuela, Bulacan, has said he not only plans to leave the country but has chosen not to work as a doctor.

Long before he took the board exams, Jacinto had already applied for a job in the United States—as a nurse in a New York hospital.

"While it pains me to do so, I'm looking forward to going abroad and not to let the opportunity pass," said Jacinto in an interview on Friday, the same day that newspapers announced that he had scored 86.75 percent and topped the field of 1,825 examinees, 948 of whom passed, for physicians.

"If only the [job] market for medicine graduates were good here," said the 28-year-old bachelor.

"Regretfully, many [doctors] have chosen to become nurses abroad because the pay here is no longer commensurate to what they have attained in the profession. It has become a trend," he said.

Nursing jobs, aside from being currently in high demand in the US, com-

DOC-TOPNOTCHER/ A22

JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

ELMER R. JACINTO, MD: It's a long way from Lamitan, Basilan to New York.

Education Revolution: Reviving dying spirit of Edsa

By Eugenia D. Apostol
Board Chair
Foundation for Worldwide People Power

DID YOU hear and read the flurry of words celebrating the 18th anniversary of Edsa 1?

Did you note the nostalgia, the regret and the discord almost drowning out the hope expressed by the various personalities that media quoted from Feb. 22 to 25?

Eighteen years ago, we were witness to a modern-day miracle, but the lessons we as a people should have learned from this phenomenon were lost because no real social transformation took place.

As Manila Archbishop Gaudencio Rosales candidly noted, the commemoration of People Power has turned into a fiesta, filled with merriment but bereft of meaning.

Should we then be thankful that there are still those who feel celebratory about what the world acknowledges as a unique historic moment called People Power?

We in the Foundation for Worldwide People Power certainly think so.

This is precisely why we have been working every day of every year to rekindle the spirit of People Power, not just with words but also by vigorous action—through the Education Revolution.

And what is the Education Revolution? Quite simply, it means tapping the wellspring of People Power in each of us—as individuals and as communities—to fight for quality education in our public schools.

It also means inspiring our teachers to become active agents for true social

EDUCATION/ A21

MANDY NAVASERO/PHOTO COURTESY OF KARA ALIKPALA

ICONIC figures of Edsa I Sandra Burton and Cory Aquino help to make the "impossible dream" come true. Wielding her enormous influence of which she hardly seemed aware, Burton was instrumental in making Aquino Time Woman of 1986.

Sandra Burton, Pinoys' true friend, found dead

By Joan Orendain
Contributor

THE PHILIPPINES has lost a true friend, an American journalist who was passionate about the Filipino.

Time Magazine's Sandra Burton, well-known to the Filipino people for her incisive reporting on the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos and the 1983 assassination of ex-Sen. Benigno "Ninoy" Aquino Jr., has died.

Burton was found dead Friday in the bathroom of her home in Bali, Indonesia, where she lived with her longtime partner, former Far Eastern Economic Review editor Robert Delfs.

The cause of her death has yet to be determined.

She was enamored of what she called "the passionate Filipino, the most attractive thing about the country, and the reason why I could not just leave the place cold," she wrote to a friend.

Burton joined Time in 1964 as a secretary and rose through the magazine's ranks, becoming a Los Angeles correspondent in 1970. She was named Boston bureau chief in 1973 and became Time's correspondent in Paris in 1977.

She spoke fluent French. She was interviewing French presidential candidate Francois Mitterrand in the countryside in 1981 when they received news that he had been elected president against Valery Giscard D'Estaing.

Burton was named Hong Kong bureau chief in 1982, covering Southeast Asia for the magazine.

She endeared herself to Filipinos of varying political persuasions with her warmth and personal concern for their welfare, and wrote reports sharply critical of the Marcos dictatorship.

She moved about quietly in the course of her work, and once traveled anonymously into the territory of the communist-led New People's Army. Because she was so well-known, she was asked to wear flip-flops and do her best to "look like a grungy backpacker" for the dangerous trip.

SANDRA/ A21

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Bicol Region, Visayas and Mindanao including Palawan will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to at times cloudy skies with isolated rainshowers

SOURCE: PAGASA

COMPILED BY: CHONA GALANG, PDI RESEARCH/02/29/04

Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy	Iloilo/Bacolod	Cloudy with Rains
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	Roxas	Cloudy with Rains
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	Cebu	Cloudy with Rains
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	Tacloban	Cloudy with Rains
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	Gen. Santos	Partly Cloudy
Tagaytay	Partly Cloudy	Zamboanga	Cloudy with Rains
Legazpi	Cloudy with Rains	Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains
Calapan	Partly Cloudy	Davao	Cloudy with Rains

E-mail: pr_news@inquirer.com.ph

Second FRONTPAGE

Comelec to review Gil candidacy

By Martin P. Marfil

IT LOOKS like the campaign of Partido Isang Bansa, Isang Diwa presidential candidate Eddie Gil is in more trouble.

Commission on Elections Chair Benjamin Abalos said the poll body is planning to review Gil's certificate of candidacy after three senatorial candidates on his slate quit the party.

"It is now time for us to review his certificate of candidacy... Why are his party mates abandoning him?" Abalos said yesterday.

Gil's candidacy had earlier been questioned by rival presidential candidate Bro. Eddie Villanueva of the Bangon Pilipinas party.

Villanueva had asked the Comelec to declare Gil a "nuisance candidate" and withdraw the Isang Bansa party's accreditation, claiming Gil's candidacy was only aimed at confusing voters because of the similarity in their names.

International banker

Gil, who claimed to be an international banker worth billions of dollars and who promised to pay off the country's foreign debt once elected, had run into trouble on the campaign trail early for failing to pay hotel and restaurant bills.

He and his entourage were detained by irate hotel personnel in Cagayan de Oro City at the start of the campaign period after failing to pay thousands of pesos in room and food fees.

During the same sortie, some vehicle drivers had accused Gil of not paying them after a motorcade.

This week, three of Isang Bansa's senatorial candidates informed the Comelec they were withdrawing from the party over the lack of funds and the way the campaign was being run.

More to follow?

Former Sen. Eddie Ilarde informed the Comelec of his intention to withdraw on Thursday, while actress Pilar Pilapil and businessman Jose Floro Crisologo followed suit on Friday.

"I was told by Pilar Pilapil and her colleagues that others would follow," Abalos said.

Abalos pointed out that Gil was allowed to run as the sixth presidential candidate partly because of his stated capacity to wage a nationwide campaign.

Not worried

Asked to comment, Isang Bansa executive director Manuel Santos said the party was not worried about the Comelec plan to review its status.

"They can do that but I am confident they won't find grounds to disqualify Gil. He has the capacity to wage a nationwide campaign," Santos said.

Santos pointed out that of the 17,600 posts being contested nationwide, Isang Bansa had candidates for 8,000 of them.

In the same interview, Santos lashed out at those who had withdrawn from the ticket, saying they had done so after their demands for campaign funds were not met.

"(Pilapil) was asking for her allocation of P200 million while Ilarde was personally disgusted with the party treasurer... Crisologo originally wanted to run as a party-list candidate but changed his mind," Santos said.

"They expected the party to finance them from head to toe," he added.

The Isang Bansa leader said senatorial candidates could spend up to P400 million for their campaigns and if the party handed over P200 million to each of them, the party would be unduly burdened.

"They don't even have equity... we can't do that. *Lalampas kami* (We'll go over the spending limit). *Paano pa si Gil?* (What about Gil?)," Santos said.

The party leader also said they did not expect anymore withdrawals from their ticket and they would call a press conference on Monday to answer the issues raised against them.

In the same interview, Santos said the Cagayan de Oro hotel incident had been blown out of proportion by the media as it was he who had actually paid the party's hotel and food bills.

ELCOME
ELIZABETH A. SAMSON
ENATORS & PARTY
OVERNMENT INDEPENDENT PAR
ON ISANG BANSA ISANG DIWA
HAY !

PRESIDENTIAL candidate Eddie Gil, shown in fighting stance in Cagayan de Oro City on Feb. 11, the start of the campaign period, is in danger of being declared a "nuisance candidate" if the Comelec decides to withdraw the accreditation of his Isang Bansa, Isang Diwa party.

EPA

Regarding the drivers, Santos said they had used only 60 vehicles in their motorcade but the drivers were demanding payment for an additional 114 vehicles that the party never saw.

Principle

Santos' allegations against the senatorial candidates who had withdrawn were belied by the bets themselves who said their withdrawal was about principle.

"My basis for my resignation was because of principles. My running for senator is a mission and a calling, not an ambition," Pilapil said.

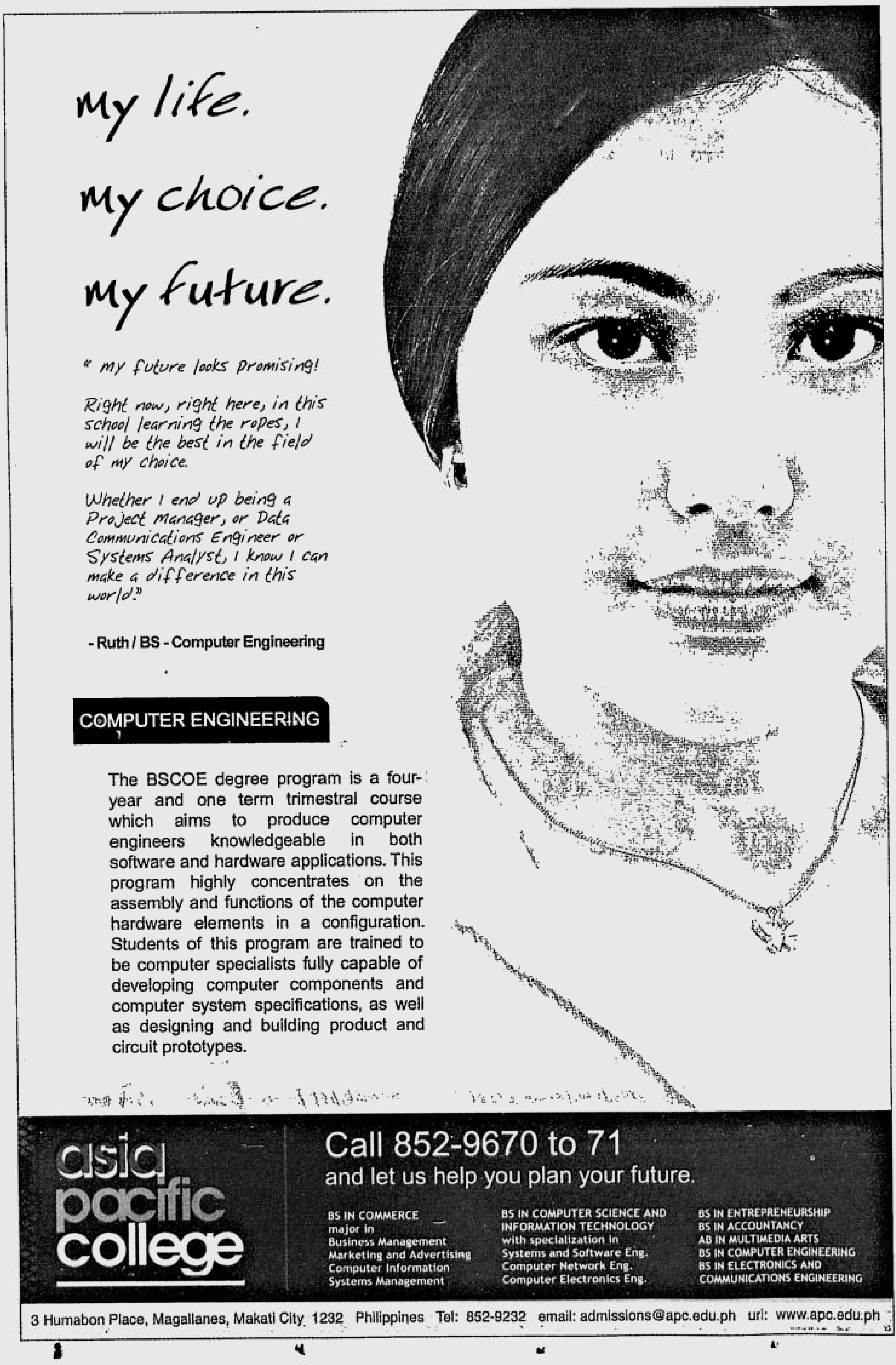
According to the actress, the senatorial candidates never asked Gil for money but it was Gil who offered to finance their candidacies.

This was echoed by Ilarde who said in a separate telephone interview that Gil had promised to finance their campaigns and there had been no mention of the candidates putting in any equity.

"I did not join the mainstream parties because I did not have money for the equity. But in Isang Bansa, they had been bragging that they had millions but they did not even have handbills, posters and meaningful schedules for the campaign," Ilarde said.

He said that he even saw some of the Isang Bansa volunteers and candidates reduced to eating biscuits during one campaign sortie.

"Don't believe them. They will dupe you," Ilarde said of Gil and his party.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- Ruth / BS - Computer Engineering

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Poe won't debate but will present plans 'a la MTV'

By Christine O. Avendaño

LUCENA CITY—A debate may not be his cup of tea, but what about MTV?

In a bid to deflect criticism that he was reluctant to face his rivals in a public debate, opposition standard-bearer Fernando Poe Jr. said he was ready to explain his platform of government through "MTV-like" commercials on television and on radio.

"I'll reach out to the people through mass media outlets instead of resorting to debates," Poe told reporters here yesterday. "The commercials will show the core of my platform, which is for the country to be united."

Three commercials starring the hugely popular actor would come out "very soon" on three top TV stations according to Sen. Vicente Sotto III, Poe's personal campaign manager. The opposition Koalisyon ng Nagkakaisang Pilipino is also printing one million copies of Poe's platform of government for distribution to the people, he added.

Instead of debating, which he called "divisive", Poe, his supporters say, is just being true to his reputation of being a man of action. "He would rather get things done, than mouth promises," said Alfredo Lim, former Manila mayor who is on the KNP senatorial ticket.

President Macapagal-Arroyo the other day said she was willing to bend the rules of debate to accommodate the demands of her closest rival, although she did not mention Poe by name.

"Let's put it this way: I am open to a revision of rules for the convenience of, no not of everyone, of the one person who's asking for changes in the rules," she said.

Ms Macapagal's move followed a statement from her spokesperson, Ignacio Bunye, who said, "If the use of Tagalog as a medium and Tondo as a venue please him (Poe), then it may be considered."

Earlier, Poe said he would join the debate if it would be held in the Tondo slums. Bunye also said the debate could be bilingual. The President has said she would join it if she could have a one-on-one with Poe, but the debate would not be worth it if Poe was not there. *With Juliet L. Javellana, Christine Avendaño and TJ Burgonio*

Int'l observers 'great leveler,' says Alvarez

By Cynthia D. Balana
and Jerome Aning

THE DEPLOYMENT of at least 50 observers from the United States and the European Union to monitor the presidential elections in May would give independent candidates a level playing field against their party-backed rivals, according to senatorial candidate Heherson Alvarez.

Alvarez, who is running as an independent after being dropped from the slate of the ruling Lakas-Christian Muslim Democrats, said the presence of the observers would make the elections more credible and peaceful. The group had been invited by President Macapagal-Arroyo. *(See related story on Page A19)*

"We welcome the move to bring in international observers to ensure honest elections," Alvarez said. "Independent candidates who do not have political parties and poll watchers would at least have a safeguard against fraud."

The former senator said the importance attached by the international community to the May elections showed "the significant role the Philippines plays as a bulwark of democracy in this part of the world."

US Ambassador to the Philippines Francis Ricciardone had described the coming polls as very important, adding "the whole world is watching."

Alvarez lauded US Embassy Charge d' Affaires Joseph Mussomeli for putting together the group of observers that was arriving.

Militant groups, however, have opposed the deployment of poll observers from the US, branding them as "spies and meddlers."

"It's an insult, an affront to what remains of Philippine independence. It only proves how tight the US stranglehold on the Philippine political system is," said Anakpawis chair Crispin Beltran.

Gov't acts to avert RP-wide transport strike tomorrow

By Juliet Labog-Javellana

MALACAÑANG officials yesterday said the government was moving to avert tomorrow's planned nationwide transport strike without having to agree to a demand to increase fares from transport groups.

President Macapagal-Arroyo expressed optimism the transport groups could be persuaded to call off the strike although she did not spell out how this would be done.

"So far the price of transport remains stable. And we are hoping to find a way to keep it stable," said the President at a press conference in Ipil, Zamboanga Sibugay.

Presidential spokesperson Ignacio Bunye said representatives from the transport department and the transport groups seemed to be reaching some sort of understanding but it was being left to the Department of Transportation and Communications to announce the "good news."

Malacañang has ruled out a meeting between the President and the transport sector, which had been told that a fare increase at this time was not justified.

Ms Macapagal said she was very grateful to the transport groups for not asking for a fare increase in the years that she was President.

"They have been very understanding of the general public," she said.

Ms Macapagal said that every time the prices of gasoline or diesel went up, the government tried to keep transport fares from increasing by helping transport groups in different ways, such as reducing some of their costs, including the tariff on imported spare parts and giving them diesel price discounts and even rice subsidies.

"So I would like to appeal to these few transport groups that inasmuch as they have been so good to the riding public all this time we have also been assisting them," she said.

"Let's look for ways by which we can increase their assistance so that they can continue also to serve the riding public without adding [to their] burden," she said.

Transport groups in Metro Cebu, Bacolod City and Negros Occidental announced yesterday that they would be joining the one-day transport strike to demand a P1.50 fare increase.

The nationwide transport strike was among the major decisions made at the National Transport Conference in Manila on Feb. 17 and 18 initiated by the Pinag-Isang Samahan ng mga Tsuper at Operators Nationwide, said Jessie Ortega, secretary general of the United Negros Drivers Operators Center (Undoc).

The Nagkahiusang Draybar sa Sugbo (Nadsu), which has a membership of at least 5,000 drivers and operators in 36 routes in Metro Cebu, would lead the strike in Cebu, according to the group's chair Anthony Pogado.

The Visayas United Drivers and Transport Cooperative (Vudtrasco) and the Cebu Transport Services Cooperative (Citrasco), which count for some 2,000 members that include taxi drivers, said they would also join the strike.

But another drivers' group in Cebu, the Alyansa sa mga Nagkahiusang Drayber sa Sugbo Alang sa Reporma (Andar), with over a thousand members, said it would not join the strike but would wait for the decision of the Land Transportation Franchising Regulatory Board (LTFRB) on the fare increase petition.

Undoc is organizing the transport strike in Negros Occidental and is also demanding a stop to oil price hikes, a suspension of the Oil Deregulation Law, and the scrapping of all oppressive and onerous taxes on the transport sector. *With a report from Jhunnex Napallacan and Carla P. Gomez, PDI Visayas Bureau*

AID AND COMFORT. A distressed President Macapagal comforts close-in security T/Sgt. Junrey Mogadato whose left leg was run over by a campaign vehicle in Zamboanga de Sibugay yesterday. Mogadato, who has guarded Ms Macapagal since her vice presidential days, slipped while running beside one of the vehicles in the presidential convoy. VAL HANDUMON

Resubmit list of SC nominees—solon

SENATE Majority Floor Leader Francis "Kiko" Pangilinan yesterday urged the Judicial and Bar Council (JBC) to resubmit its list of nominees for the lone vacancy in the Supreme Court to President Macapagal-Arroyo.

Pangilinan, a member of the JBC, made the proposal after the President reportedly recalled the appointment to the high court of Sandiganbayan Presiding Justice Minita-Chico Nazario, her initial choice for the vacancy.

"I will insist that the JBC submit the same list," Pangilinan said, adding that he would raise the issue when the JBC meets on Wednesday.

Under the Constitution, the President has 90 days to fill the vacancy following the retirement of Justice Josue Bellosillo on Nov. 13, 2003. Pangilinan noted that the 90-day period has lapsed.

Pangilinan said that once the list was resubmitted to Malacañang, the President could make another appointment as long as her choice was on the JBC list sent to Malacañang on Jan. 28.

Besides Nazario, JBC's other nominees include SC Court Administrator Presbiterio Velasco Jr., Solicitor General Alfredo Benipayo, Court of Appeals Presiding Justice Cancio Garcia and University of the Philippines law professor Ruben Balane.

Sources said Velasco received the unanimous votes of all the eight JBC members. The JBC, which screens judicial appointments, is chaired by Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr.

Benipayo, Garcia and Nazario allegedly received seven votes each, while Balane got six votes.

Malacañang, however, has yet to clarify if the President has formally withdrawn or deferred her appointment of Nazario to the high court.

Earlier reports said that Nazario was supposed to take her oath tomorrow or Tuesday before the President.

Presidential spokesperson Ignacio Bunye had admitted that his announcement of Nazario's appointment was not authorized by Ms Macapagal although she did sign the appointment papers the day before.

Philip C. Tubeza

Business agenda draws bets' praise

MEETING on common ground, presidential candidates yesterday praised the business agenda proposed by business heavyweights for the next tenant of Malacañang, but qualified their support about one of its more controversial aspects: making "jueteng" legal.

President Macapagal-Arroyo welcomed the proposal, saying it was "a very, very good agenda," citing the establishment of a P100-million fund for the country's poor.

Businessmen led by Manuel Pangilinan, Washington SyCip, Jose Pardo and Enrique Razon, among others, proposed that the winning presidential candidate adopt a four-point economic agenda that includes the legalization of *jueteng* (illegal numbers game), a 50-percent cut on government pork barrel, continued public executions and taxing text messages.

Sen. Panfilo Lacson, speaking at a campaign sortie in Guiguinto, Bulacan, said he would support moves to legalize *jueteng* and tax text messages. "If you cannot lick it, it should be properly regulated, and provided that we earn revenues for the government," he said.

Opposition presidential candidate Fernando Poe Jr., however, was more cautious, saying there was a need to study the *jueteng* proposal thoroughly. But in the event it became legal, this should benefit the people, he added.

The President did not say whether she supported the legalization of jueteng along with other recommendations embodied in the agenda such as the slashing of the pork barrel by half and imposing taxes on text messages.

Presidential spokesperson Ignacio Bunye said Ms Macapagal would come out with a more definite response tothe agenda after the elections, specifically, on the provision to legalize the numbers game to boost the government's depleted coffers. He said there were pending measures on the legalization of jueteng in Congress and the President might take the cue from lawmakers.

The opposition Koalisyon ng Nagkakaisang Pilipino, on the other hand, has yet to come out with a position on the *jueteng* proposal, according to Poe's running mate Sen. Loren Legarda. Legarda said the pros and cons of legalizing jueteng should be studied, as she noted that she understood the concerns raised by Pangasinan Archbishop Oscar Cruz who told businessmen that legalized gambling will not generate wealth but merely let money circulate in the wrong hands.

Lacson, making a pitch for regulated jueteng, said that as National Police chief then, he almost eradicated the illegal numbers game network nationwide before January 2001 when then President Joseph Estrada was deposed after he was linked to plunder cases and was reported to have received jueteng money.

At a campaign stopover in Pagadian City yesterday, Ms Macapagal, citing the P100 million guaranty fund, said her government was willing to provide counterpart funding to make it move. The fund would use seed money pooled from the resources of businessmen led by Pangilinan, Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. chair, and Razon, International Container Terminal Services Inc. president. *Gil Cabacungan Jr., Norman Bordadora, Christine Avendaño*

Soldiers, MILF rebels take fight to basketball court

By Volt Contreras

GOVERNMENT troops and rebel sympathizers are being pitted against each other in war-torn Mindanao—but only in friendly basketball games.

That mortal enemies on the battlefield have been reduced to basketball adversaries is being touted by Social Welfare Secretary Corazon "Dinky" Soliman as "the extent of peace" that has been achieved by the rehabilitation programs of her department in Central Mindanao.

The Department of Social Welfare and Development has been carrying out the programs for a year now in the communities affected by the military's takeover of the Buliok rebel complex in Pikit, North Cotabato in February 2003.

Makeshift basketball courts—with one goal marked "AFP" for Armed Forces of the Philippines, and the other "MILF" for the Moro Islamic Liberation Front—have become a common sight in the new neighborhoods being created under the Bangsamoro Pabahay program, according to Soliman.

Promoting social interaction through games between Christians and Muslims, or between soldiers and locals known to be rebel sympathizers, is one of the objectives of the "peace dialogues" being conducted by the DSWD in resettlement sites, Soliman explained.

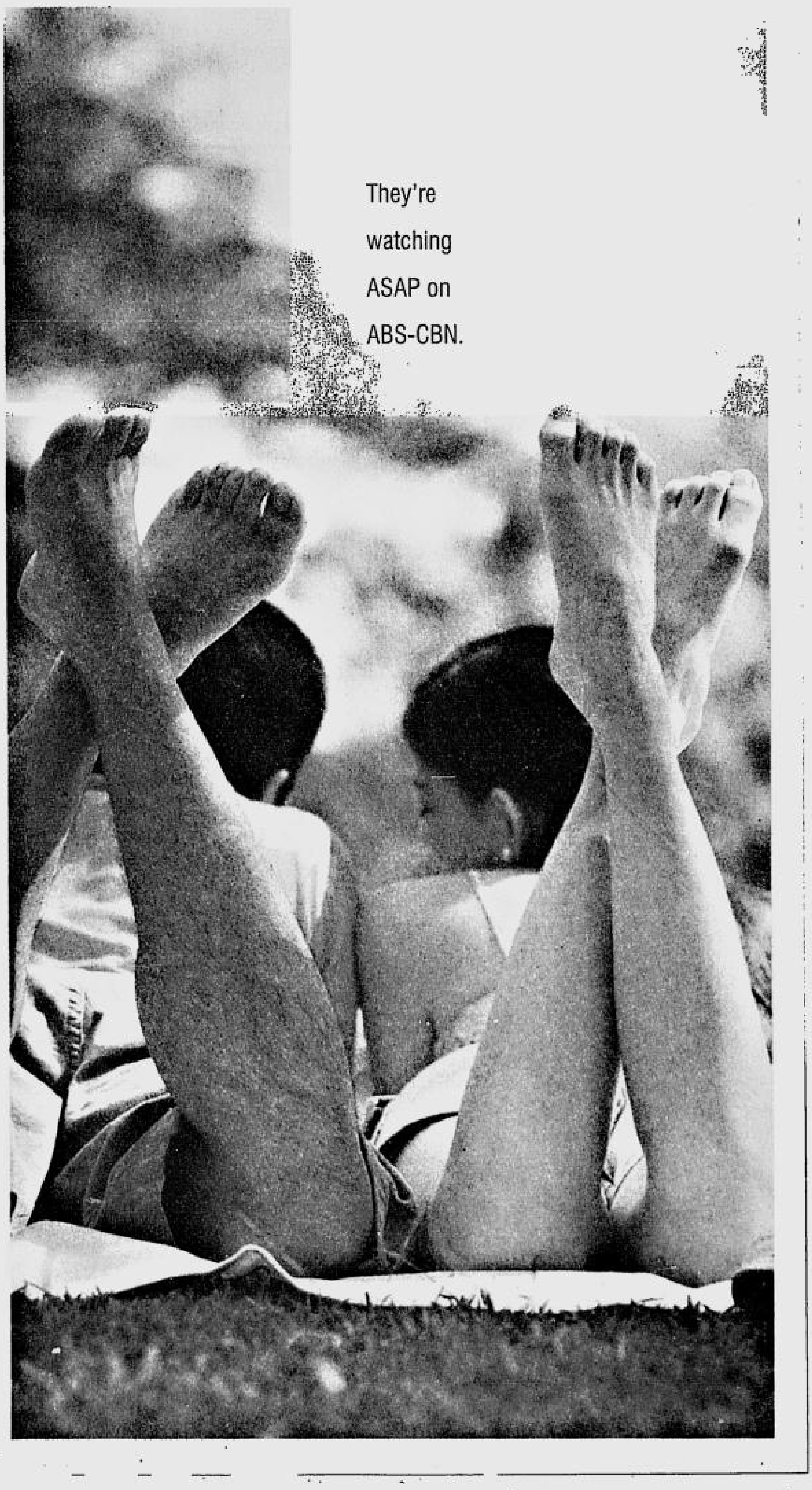
The purpose of the dialogues is "to minimize, if not totally eliminate, whatever biases or negative perceptions they have about each other's cultures," Soliman said.

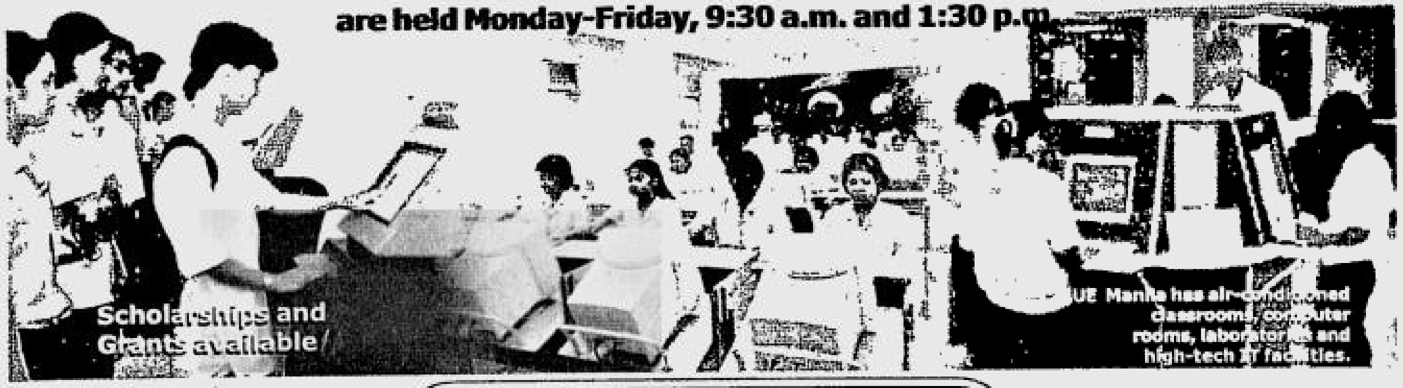
The peace dialogues program is being pursued side by side with the Pabahay project.

In the Pabahay neighborhoods that have been completed and occupied, for example, Muslims, Christians and lumad (ethnic minorities) are "not only living together but have actually built houses for each other," said Soliman.

About 1,030 homes have been completed out of the targeted 5,491 units planned for resettlement sites in Maguindanao, Sulu, Basilan and Tawi-Tawi, Soliman said.

The housing project receives donations from the Gawad Kalinga Foundation, which has committed P15,000 for every housing unit to be built, Soliman said.





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Master in Library and Information Science (MLIS)

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Associate in Health Science Education (AHSE)
Pre-Dentistry (two-year course)

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Bachelor of Science in Business Administration (BSBA) (Level II Accredited)
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BSBA (Management)- Special Degree Program
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AB Journalism
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Bachelor of Science (BS)
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Bachelor of Science in Information Management (for CHED approval)

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THE DAILY GOSPEL

Sunday, February 29, 2004
1st Sunday of Lent

1st Reading: **Dt 26:4-10**

Then the priest shall take the large basket from your hands and place it before the altar of Yahweh, your God, and you shall say these words before Yahweh, "My father was a wandering Aramean. He went down to Egypt to find refuge there, while still few in number; but in that country, he became a great and powerful nation.

The Egyptians maltreated us, oppressed us and subjected us to harsh slavery. So we called to Yahweh, the God of our ancestors, and Yahweh listened to us. He saw our humiliation, our hard labor and the oppression to which we were subjected. He brought us out of Egypt with a firm hand, manifesting his power with signs and awesome wonders. And he brought us here to give us this land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring and offer the firstfruits of the land which you, Yahweh, have given me."

2nd Reading: **Rom 10:8-13**

True righteousness coming from faith also says: The word of God is near you, on your lips and in your hearts. This is the message that we preach, and this is faith.

You are saved if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and in your heart you believe that God raised him from the dead. By believing from the heart, you obtain true righteousness; by confessing the faith with your lips you are saved. For Scripture says: No one who believes in him will be ashamed. Here there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; all have the same Lord, who is very generous with whoever calls on him. Truly, all who call upon the name of the Lord will be saved.

Gospel: Lk 4:1-13

Jesus was now full of Holy Spirit. As he returned from the Jordan, the Spirit led him into the desert where he was tempted by the devil for forty days. He did not eat anything during that time, and in the end he was hungry. The devil then said to him, "If you are son of God, tell this stone to turn into bread." But Jesus answered, "Scripture says: People cannot live on bread alone."

Then the devil took him up to a high place and showed him in a flash all the nations of the world. And he said to Jesus, "I can give you power over all the nations and their wealth will be yours, for power and wealth have been delivered to me and I give them to whom I wish. All this will be yours provided you worship me." But Jesus replied, "Scripture says: You shall worship the Lord your God and serve him alone."

Then the devil took him up to Jerusalem and set him on the highest wall of the Temple; and he said, "If you are son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written: God will order his angels to take care of you and again: They will hold you in their hands, lest you hurt your foot on the stones." But Jesus replied, "It is written: You shall not challenge the Lord your God."

When the devil had exhausted every way of tempting Jesus he left him, to return another time.

Commentary

'Tempted,' in the Scriptures, means 'put to the test.' Jesus was led (in Mark, driven) into the desert to be put to the test. For a start, the desert itself put him to the test. A desert gives you nothing to eat, it makes you feel utterly powerless, and it seems totally indifferent to your fate.

First a superficial interpretation. The three temptations of Jesus correspond to these three facts about deserts. He felt hungry, and when he looked at the stones he saw bread. (A Hindu poet who used to write a lot about the moon fell into great poverty, and whenever he looked at the moon now he saw only a chipattil) Secondly, the feeling of powerlessness tempted Jesus to power, and thirdly the uncaring desert made him imagine God sending "his angel to care for you." All this may only mean that the devil has a feeling for place! At any rate, temptations are never just disembodied ideas.

A scholar says that Luke is thinking also of the Church when he describes this episode in the desert. The trials of Jesus are prolonged in his body the Church. It is the Church that is now in the desert, tempted by the devil. It is tempted to be only a material provider (in some instances providing just for itself); it is tempted to power, and it is tempted to what Italians call 'spettacolarismo'—pomp and show. The devil's sense of place and timing hasn't deserted him in the meantime.

At an individual level we can all look around us and investigate our particular temptations. They will be related to our own time and place, to the things nearest us, to our hungers, ambitions and fears. And they are not always obvious. The temptations of Jesus were not temptations to evil, but to limited kinds of goodness. How do you tempt a good person? With evil? No, he or she will not take that bait. You tempt them with goodness-but with some kind of short-term, self-defeating goodness. On this first Sunday of Lent the Church encourages us to look with clear sight at our temptations.

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This very important information is jointly organized and consolidated with the highest regard for accuracy and respect for the rights of the concerned persons in the list. We would like to apologize for not being able to come up with this earlier- as we had to confirm the boarding manifest against the list of actual rescued passengers.
As of 5:00 PM, February 28, 2004,
the following are the confirmed rescued survivors.

DESTINATION	LAST_NAME	FIRST_NAME	AGE	SEX
BCD 1	ABALOS	CRISTINA	20	F
CGY 2	ABATAY	JUDY ROXAN	14	F
CGY 3	ABCEDE	NINO MARLO	15	M
CGY 4	ABDULCADER AMARD	AHMAD	38	M
CGY 5	ABECIA	OPHELIA	33	F
CGY 6	ABINES	MICHAEL	25	M
CGY 7	ABLAO	HILTON	24	M
CGY 8	ABOC	LEAH MARIE	11	F
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BCD 11	AGAWIN	FLOYD	33	M
BCD 12	AGAWIN	FE	35	F
BCD 13	AISA	RIZALDE	44	M
BCD 14	ALAGAO	LORYVIE	26	F
BCD 15	ALARCON	GERONDIO	27	M
BCD 16	ALCALA	JUN ROCKY	26	M
BCD 17	ALCOBER	MARIE ISABERA	11	F
CGY 18	ALCANZON	ALDRICH	24	M
BCD 19	ALEJAGA	REY	16	M
BCD 20	ALEMAN NIA	LEAROSE	23	F
BCD 21	ALESNA	JOSEPH	31	M
BCD 22	ALESNA	PORFERIO	35	M
BCD 23	ALFARAS	ADRIAN	16	M
BCD 24	ALISEN	ALFREDO	32	M
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BCD 26	ALIWATE	RICO SR	58	M
BCD 27	ALIWATE	RICO JR	30	M
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BCD 31	AMAS	ARABELLA	35	F
BCD 32	AMOMAS	CATHY	21	F
BCD 33	AMPER	CHRISTINE	14	F
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BCD 36	ANDRES	FRANCISCO SR	54	M
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BCD 45	ARCUENO	ROSINE	37	F
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CGY 229	FUEGO	JAY-LHEEN	22	F
CGY 230	GABATAN	ROSARY ANN	18	F
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CGY 232	GALARRITA	MEDARDA	60	F
CGY 233	GALAS	VIRGIE	50	F
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CGY 236	GALVEZ	REYNANTE	22	M
CGY 237	GALVEZ	JOVY	26	F
CGY 238	GALVEZ	MARITES	29	F
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CGY 288	JORGE	PHITERSON	26	M
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BCD 290	KOCHOA	CRIS	27	F
CGY 291	KOLE	ALMARC	19	M
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CGY 293	LABIAL	JESSIE	42	F
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CGY 295	LABRADOR	DELIA	34	F
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CGY 330	MACALAM	JONATHAN	18	M
CGY 331	MACAPIA	ABDULLAH	20	M
CGY 332	MACAS	JANNE VIVIENNE	11	F
CGY 333	MADANGUIT	AIZA	10	F
CGY 334	MAGALONA	FEBELYN	25	F
CGY 335	MAGDALES	CLINTON JOHN	15	M
CGY 336	MAGNAONG	MALA EPNA	32	F
CGY 337	MAGNAONG	PRISTINE	14	F
CGY 338	MALIFER	MRS ALMA	54	F
CGY 339	MALLORCA	MARILOU	33	F
BCD 340	MALONE	SHEILA	20	F
CGY 341	MALTEZO	RAPUNZEL	22	F
CGY 342	MAMA	BASHARY	31	M
CGY 343	MANGADANG	ARTURO	62	M
CGY 344	MANSUETO	MARLON	26	M
CGY 345	MANTO	LAURINCE JAY	3	M
CGY 346	MARAMARA	ELENA	31	F
CGY 347	MARANON	RODOLFO	28	M
CGY 348	MARANON	MARIETA	33	F
CGY 349	MARCELLENA	MARVIN	23	M
CGY 350	MARINAS	MANNY	25	M
CGY 351	MASANGYA	PEREGRINO	53	M
BCD 352	MATIAS	MELINDA	19	F
CGY 353	MAYORDOMO	JUAN	18	M
CGY 354	MENDOZA	EDELIZA	35	F
CGY 355	MERLYN	SULAGUE	45	F
CGY 356	MISTULA	CARLA	32	F
CGY 357	MOLINA	LEODINIA	53	F
CGY 358	MOLINA	MATEO	53	M
CGY 359	MONGAN	CESAR	43	M
CGY 360	MONTALBAN	DONNA	34	F
CGY 361	MONTIL	JOHANNA FATIMA	16	F
CGY 362	MORALES	VICTOR	28	M
CGY 363	MORENO	ATHENA LOI	15	F
BCD 364	MORIN	JOVEY	31	M
BCD 365	MORIN	MARIAN	41	F
BCD 366	MORIN	REYNALDO	56	M
CGY 367	MOSQUERA	ROMEO	65	M
CGY 368	NACUA	RODELY	24	F
CGY 369	NADUVIA	MARICHRIS	10	F
CGY 370	NADUVIA	JUNRIE	24	M
CGY 371	NAPERE	ROBERTO	22	M
CGY 372	NERI	CONSUELO	33	F
CGY 373	NILLOS	FRANCISCO	34	M
CGY 374	NITSHA	CANDIE JANE	13	F
CGY 375	NITSHA	ZALDY	43	M
CGY 376	NOMO	RODNEY	18	M
CGY 377	OCAYA	ANA LIZA	36	F
CGY 378	OCHOTORENA	VICTORIA	35	F
CGY 379	OCO	RANDY	21	M
CGY 380	OCTAVIANO	FILOMENA	75	F
CGY 381	OFLAS	ALJANN	24	F
CGY 382	OLAYRES	JAY	21	M
CGY 383	OLINAN	JESSON	16	M
CGY 384	OMBAN	VIRGIE	36	F
CGY 385	ONG	AIREEN MAE	11	F
CGY 386	PABORALINAN	LEO	28	M
BCD 387	PACHICO	ROSALIE	18	F
CGY 388	PACUR BOT	LUISA	33	F
CGY 389	PADRONES	JOY	20	F
CGY 390	PADRONES	REMEDIOS	63	F
CGY 391	PAGLINAWAN	LALAINE	34	F
CGY 392	PAGUIA	ONOFRE	69	M
CGY 393	PAJANTOY	AL INDE JOHN	11	M
CGY 394	PALAMINE	AYESSA TRICIA FAYE	16	F
CGY 395	PALAMINE	LENY	16	F
BCD 396	PALERMO	JONA	27	F
CGY 397	PALMARES	MARGARITA	75	F
CGY 398	PALUGA JR	MARIO	15	M
CGY 399	PANALIGAN	JASMIN	31	F
CGY 400	PARCON	HERNADO JR.	18	M
CGY 401	PATINDOL	HERCULANO	69	M
CGY 402	PATRICIO	MA. ESTRELLA	20	F
CGY 403	PECORE	NESTOR	43	M
CGY 404	PEDRENA	MELCHOR	39	M
CGY 405	PELIAS	MRS HAZEL	35	F
CGY 406	PEREZ	LILIBETH	32	F
CGY 407	PERSON	GLEENA	63	F
CGY 408	PESTOLANTE	LEODEGARIA	50	F
CGY 409	PILUDEN	ESPIE	54	F
CGY 410	PILUDEN	ATENOR	59	M
CGY 411	PINATASAN	CLARITA	43	F
CGY 412	PIRANTE	AIRAM ABIGAIL	6	F
CGY 413	PIRANTE	SUSAN	37	F
CGY 414	PLANTAS	CRIS JOCERYL	15	F
CGY 415	PONTERAS	VIVENCIO	27	M
BCD 416	PORRAS	ISAGANI	32	M
BCD 417	PUEDA	ENRICO	52	M
CGY 418	QUIAZON	JOSE JR.	39	M
CGY 419	QUIBLAT	FRANCES MAE	14	F
CGY 420	QUIJANO	CYRILL	11	M
CGY 421	QUILESTE	RONALD	16	M
CGY 422	RAFOLS	CRESENCIA	39	F
CGY 423	RASINABE	EUSTROPIA	67	F
CGY 424	RAVINA JR	EDUARDO	61	M
CGY 425	REBELICA	BONNIE GLEN	26	M
CGY 426	REBELICA	KATHERYN	30	F
CGY 427	REMACABAN	RANDOPLH	18	M
CGY 428	RENCION	ROSSANA	22	F
CGY 429	REPONTE	JOAN	21	F
CGY 430	RESMA	DINAH	24	F
CGY 431	REYES	RIZA	11	F
CGY 432	REYES	LUCIA	64	F
CGY 433	RICOTE JR.	ERIC	23	M
CGY 434	RINON	RONALDO	24	M
CGY 435	ROBLES	MICHAEL	18	M
CGY 436	ROBLES	REMEDIOS	40	F
BCD 437	ROCERO	RACQUEL	24	F
BCD 438	ROCERO	ALLAN	32	M
CGY 439	RODRIGUEZ	SUSAN	27	F
CGY 440	ROJAS	MANUELITO	54	M
CGY 441	ROSAL	NORMA	52	F
CGY 442	ROSCALES	RIO	18	M
CGY 443	SABANTO	CHEROBEL	3	F
CGY 444	SABANTO	MARIBEL	37	F
CGY 445	SAGUING	JANUS EZRA	16	M
CGY 446	SAGUING	DELILAH	47	F
CGY 447	SALAS	CHERRY ANN	11	F
CGY 448	SALAZAR	FREZEL MAY	18	F
CGY 449	SALDITOS	DANILO	40	M
CGY 450	SALHAY	RUSSEL PAUL	27	M
CGY 451	SALINERO	AGAPITA	50	F
CGY 452	SALON	KEISHA	11	F
CGY 453	SALUGSUGAN	ROSITA	60	F
CGY 454	SALVANA	JULITO	29	M
CGY 455	SAMSON	GEMMA	35	F
CGY 456	SANICO	GIOVANI	18	M
CGY 457	SANTILLAN	LUCITA	54	F
CGY 458	SARDO	RODEL	25	M
CGY 459	SARIPADA	ABOL	22	M
BCD 460	SATURNINO	RICHARD	27	M
CGY 461	SAYO	GLENDA	19	F
CGY 462	SAYO	EMMA	59	F
CGY 463	SAYSON	ERNESTO	51	M
BCD 464	SAYSON	EVELYN	47	F
CGY 465	SAYSON	MARILYN	20	F
CGY 466	SENIT	BONNIE	28	M
CGY 467	SENORIO	ROBERTO	18	M
CGY 468	SEROY	ROSENA	49	F
CGY 469	SEROY	LEONORA	65	F
CGY 470	SERRANO	LILIA	54	F
CGY 471	SERRANO	JULIUS	19	M
BCD 472	SICAT	ESTER JACINTA	53	F
BCD 473	SILVERIO	MARY JEAN	40	F
CGY 474	SIMACON	ARTEMIO	53	M
BCD 475	SIMBAHON	ALAN	30	M
BCD 476	SINGNA	REGINA	38	F
CGY 477	SISON	LEAH	35	F
CGY 478	SIYA	CORAZON	56	F
CGY 479	SOLACITO	MIREL	29	M
CGY 480	SOLIS	SUZETTE	23	F
CGY 481	SOMBILON	MELISA	25	F
CGY 482	SUARNABA	LYREX	18	M
CGY 483	SUBALAN	CRESILDA	27	F
CGY 484	SUBIDO	FLORDELIZA	52	F
CGY 485	SULTAN	GERELYN	26	F
CGY 486	SUNGLAO	GEORGE JR	63	M
CGY 487	SUSON	HANNA ASHLEY ALANA	11	F
CGY 488	TABANAO	MARLITA	38	F
CGY 489	TABINAS	JEMA	12	F
CGY 490	TACUBAO	AU-MARIE	18	F
CGY 491	TAGAYUNA	ERNESTO	22	M
CGY 492	TAGUPA	HYACINTH	13	F
CGY 493	TALASAN	NENITA	40	F
CGY 494	TALIA	MELISSA	24	F
CGY 495	TAN	EDIOMA	11	F
CGY 496	TAN	ALFREDO	65	M
CGY 497	TANEO	AILYN	10	F
CGY 498	TANZO	LEAH NENEZ	11	F
CGY 499	TARAN	ERIC	30	M
CGY 500	TARLAC	ANATALIA	55	F
CGY 501	TEATRO	MRS FREDESWINDA	36	F
CGY 502	TEJANO	EDUARDO	42	M
CGY 503	TEJERO	JACINTO	47	M
CGY 504	TEOPE	MA.ELENA	34	F
CGY 505	TEPINO	MARIE GRACE	35	F
CGY 506	TESORO	LUCILLE	42	F
CGY 507	TIAMSON	OLIVER	18	M
CGY 508	TICAR	NOEL	18	M
CGY 509	TIGBABAO	PERLITA	46	F
CGY 510	TIGUELO	RENINFA	23	F
CGY 511	TIROL	JONES JR	25	M
CGY 512	TRESTIZA	JETRO	18	M
CGY 513	TUBA	CEL MARIE EVE	14	F
CGY 514	TUBIO	NELIA	22	F
CGY 515	UBAN	GIL	35	M
CGY 516	UCAB	JOHNRI	24	M
CGY 517	UCAT	EVELYN	22	F
CGY 518	UDSALAN	ALICIA	29	F
CGY 519	UMBAN	ROSITA	62	F
CGY 520	UY	MARIEDOL	22	F
CGY 521	VALDEVILLA	GRACE	11	F
CGY 522	VALDEVILLA	JUSIL GRACE	15	F
CGY 523	VAN EEKEN	FE	42	F
CGY 524	VAN EEKEN	AL WILLEM	50	M
CGY 525	VANDIELA	VALMAR	20	M
CGY 526	VARGAS	EMMA	40	F
CGY 527	VELARDE	ARACELI	46	F
CGY 528	VICENTE	MARSHERL	36	F
BCD 529	VICTORIANO	LEONISA	43	F
CGY 530	VILLACIN	HELEN GRACE	15	F
BCD 531	VILLALON	VERGEL	41	M
CGY 532	VILLANUEVA	BILLY	49	M
CGY 533	VILLANUEVA	JULIE	49	F
CGY 534	VILLANUEVA	MACIEL	26	M
CGY 535	VILLEGAS	MARILOU	39	F
CGY 536	VINCO	NICANOR	53	M
CGY 537	VISTAL	HYDIE	23	F
CGY 538	VITER	PRECILA	35	F
CGY 539	VIVARES	SHERYL ROSE	11	F
CGY 540	YABA	MARIA	69	F
CGY 541	YAMIT	DEN MAY	11	F
CGY 542	YGAY	RUTH	36	F
CGY 543	YULO	MIKO	28	M
CGY 544	ZARCENO	ROMMEL	18	M
CGY 545	ZAYAS	CLINT ERVIN	11	M
CGY 546	ZAYAS	DINARA	33	F

MINOR

1 CDO	Arellano	Kim	4 Bac	Castillo	Mila
2 CDO	Arellano	Kelly	5 Bac	Cabarra	Kresha Jaya
3 CDO	Arellano	Kyla	6 Bac	Cervantes	Rachelle
7 Bac	Cuenca	Clarissa	14 Bac	Ocera	Gna Carl
8 CDO	Davides	Alex	15 Bac	Pacheco	Rosalyn
9 CDO	Diaz	Alexandra	16 Bac	Pacheco	Junar
10 Bac	Evidasco	Hanna Marie	17 Bac	Remulla	Charma
11 Bac	Baro	Danessa Mae	18 Bac	Racero	Angeline
12 CDO	Lagu	Trisha	19 CDO	Valencia	Anna Luisa
13 Bac	Lao	Russel			

CREW

DEPARTMENT FOOD AND BEVERAGE

1	AGA	PERCIVAL	18	GARRIDO	ROLANDO
2	ALVARILLO	RUEL	19	LAGNA JR.	BENJAMIN
3	ALVAR	ELIZABETH DINAH	20	LLEGO	ROLAND
4	ARCANO	ANAFE	21	MIRANDA	JAMES FRANCIS
5	BARRIOS	MARICEL	22	PARTIBLE	DANTE
6	BASCO	WEVERLYN ANNE	23	OLEDA	JOLLY
7	BONTOGON	EVAN	24	RANARIO	ELMER
8	BUSEL	MANUEL	25	SALCEDO	ROCHELLE
9	CABLOLAN	JEFFREY	26	SANTUYO	ERIC
10	CANDAES	RANDY	27	SERAPION	WALYN
11	CAUCA	DIGITH	28	SILVESTRE	GERRY
12	CEPE	ANNABEL	29	SISON	REDFRID
13	COMPUESTO	MANUEL RONGE	30	TOLEDO	JAYSON
14	ESPIRITU	ROLANDO	31	TUBIAS	ROLANDO
15	FIGUERAS	RICHARD	32	URALI	JOLIT
16	GALANO	GERHARD	33	UY	REXIE
17	GARCERA	JOSE MARIO	34	YECLA	LIBERADO JR.

DEPARTMENT TECHNICAL

1	ABABAN	CARLOS	22	LOVENTICAR	EDWIN
2	ALEGOS	CARLITO	23	MANZO	CEFERINO
3	APARADO	GILBERT	24	MARTINEZ	PAUL MICHAEL
4	ARBAN	ROLAN	25	MICHAEL	KARL
5	ARBAS	WHORSTDLEY	26	ORANO	EDWIN
6	BAGULOR	JANNY	27	PAJUAR	RAFAEL
7	BISAYA	JOCELYN	28	PAYPA	OLIE
8	BUENAFLOR	MICHAEL	29	RABONG	FELINO
9	CAMACHO	JOEBERT	30	REYES	EUFROCINO
10	CANONE JR	ROLANDO	31	RUBIO	ROEL
11	CHIONG	JOSEPH	32	SAAVEDRA	KRISTOFER
12	CURANO	ZOE	33	SANTONE	WELLARHEA
13	CUSTODIO	RONALD	34	SARMIENTO	BRYAN
14	DOCEJO	ALVINO	35	SESCON	RECHIE
15	EVANGELISTA	RANDY	36	SUMAGAYSAY	LIBORIO
16	FLORES	ROLLY	37	SUPLIDO	MARIO
17	GASLANG	ANGEL JOSE	38	SUPNET	JOHARVEY
18	GOMEZ	RUBEN	39	TAGO	ONES
19	LATO	CHRISTOPHER	40	TUNDAG	NICOLAS
20	LIBOT	RENATO	41	VERGARA	HECTOR
21	LLAMPARO	JAY			

DEPARTMENT HOUSEKEEPING

1	ALERO	AREEN	22	LITERATO	GOLDWAYNE
2	ALBAO	FERDINAND	23	MACAHILAS	MARLON
3	ANE	JORY	24	MANGIPADA	EFREN
4	ALINGON	EDGEL	25	MARTINEZ	JAY
5	BALDOS	RONALD	26	NEGAS	FRANCISCO
6	BENDALAN	NAPOLEON	27	OCVER	ANTHONY
7	BARIGO	NORMAN	28	OGA	LOREJIE
8	BEDLAS	NOEL	29	PAGOTA	FRANCIS NOLAN
9	BRUSOLA	SALVACION	30	PANTOJA	RICKY
10	CASTAÑEDA	JOENER	31	PASCUA	ELENO
11	DICHON	JEANNON	32	PORTILLANO	JOREN
12	CALE	MICHAEL	33	QUITONG	MICHAEL
13	CUSTODIO	FLORIBEL	34	REYES	ALVIN
14	DITCHING	RUBY	35	RONDS	ALLAS
15	DOMINGO	JANUARY	36	SACRO	JEROME JOVIE
16	DUMAYLINGSOD	ALLEN	37	SAVO	ARIAN
17	ESCOBEDO	EDWIN	38	SALINAS	JOHNNES
18	HILARIA	CHRISTINE	39	TOLENTINO	SHARON
19	LADDAO	SHIRLEY	40	TONEL	SILVER
20	LACHICA	JINO	41	URETA	KEITH ANTHONY
21	LAYON	BONNIE	42	VICTORIANO	GLECELL

DEPARTMENT SHOPS

1	ACABADO	NESTOR
2	ARADO	MARLON
3	AREBAN	RICHARD
4	CAMLOTE	JONA
5	GONZAGA	CYREL
6	MOJECA	JEFF
7	QUIAPANO	ROEL
8	SENON	FRANCIS
9	TUYOR	MIRALINA
10	VENTIANO	MARILYN

DEPARTMENT ON-BOARD TRAINEES

1	DIMIT	RICHARD
2	REYES	VINCENT BENJAMIN
3	RODRIGUEZ	GIOVANNI

DEPARTMENT MAINTENANCE

1	CEREMONIA	EDWIN
2	ENRIQUEZ	GUILLERMO
3	MAGHANOY	REY
4	MERCADAL	ERICK
5	RABALES	REYNALDO

DEPARTMENT HOTEL

1	ALBERTO	CONCHITA
2	ARCHES	ERWIN
3	FRIOLLANA	ALLAN SEAN
4	PANAGA	PIKKI
5	RAFAEL	ELLAINE CLAIRE
6	SANTOS	JOVIE

DEPARTMENT AUDIT

1	LIM	CATHERINE

ENTERTAINER

1	CAHAG	JUN
2	FLORES	WENG
3	FLORES	ELOISA
4	ASOGUE	BINGIAW

DEPARTMENT FINANCE

1	ESTAMPADOR	SUZETTE

The WG&A call centers were able to contact the families of many of the survivors and were able to confirm that many of the survivors went home without registering with the PCG and WG&A passenger assistance and processing centers.

We believe that there may be more passengers that we were not able to contact who may have gone home without informing these centers.

We would like to appeal to anyone who can give us additional information on other passengers who are not in the foregoing list.

We would like to inform all the relatives of the missing passengers to please proceed to the Philippine Ports Authority Multi-purpose Gym near Pier 15, South Harbor, Manila for register update or you may call the WG&A Call Center.

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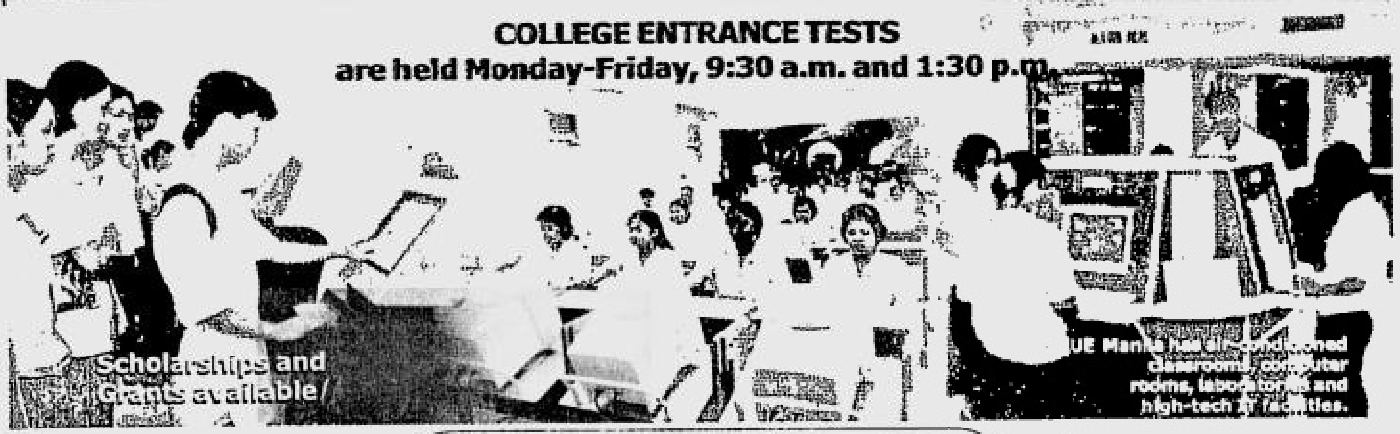
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Master in Construction Management (MCM)
Executive Program/Non-Thesis, Regular Program/With Thesis
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Majors: Educational Administration and Leadership, Library Science, English as a Second Language
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Bachelor of Science in Business Administration (BSBA) (Level II Accredited)
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(for entrepreneurs or executives in private enterprises or government, or for officers in the AFP, without a college degree)
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AB Journalism
Bachelor of Arts (AB)
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Bachelor of Science (BS)
Majors: Biology, Library and Information Science, Mathematics, Physics, Psychology, Statistics
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Contact Center Program

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Bachelor of Science in Information Technology (BSIT)
Associate in Computer Technology (ACT)
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Bachelor of Science in Information Management (for CHED approval)

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THE DAILY GOSPEL

Sunday, February 29, 2004
1st Sunday of Lent

1st Reading: **Dt 26:4-10**

Then the priest shall take the large basket from your hands and place it before the altar of Yahweh, your God, and you shall say these words before Yahweh, "My father was a wandering Aramean. He went down to Egypt to find refuge there, while still few in number; but in that country, he became a great and powerful nation.

The Egyptians maltreated us, oppressed us and subjected us to harsh slavery. So we called to Yahweh, the God of our ancestors, and Yahweh listened to us. He saw our humiliation, our hard labor and the oppression to which we were subjected. He brought us out of Egypt with a firm hand, manifesting his power with signs and awesome wonders. And he brought us here to give us this land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring and offer the firstfruits of the land which you, Yahweh, have given me."

2nd Reading: **Rom 10:8-13**

True righteousness coming from faith also says: The word of God is near you, on your lips and in your hearts. This is the message that we preach, and this is faith.

You are saved if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and in your heart you believe that God raised him from the dead. By believing from the heart, you obtain true righteousness; by confessing the faith with your lips you are saved. For Scripture says: No one who believes in him will be ashamed. Here there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; all have the same Lord, who is very generous with whoever calls on him. Truly, all who call upon the name of the Lord will be saved.

Gospel: Lk 4:1-13

Jesus was now full of Holy Spirit. As he returned from the Jordan, the Spirit led him into the desert where he was tempted by the devil for forty days. He did not eat anything during that time, and in the end he was hungry. The devil then said to him, "If you are son of God, tell this stone to turn into bread." But Jesus answered, "Scripture says: People cannot live on bread alone."

Then the devil took him up to a high place and showed him in a flash all the nations of the world. And he said to Jesus, "I can give you power over all the nations and their wealth will be yours, for power and wealth have been delivered to me and I give them to whom I wish. All this will be yours provided you worship me." But Jesus replied, "Scripture says: You shall worship the Lord your God and serve him alone."

Then the devil took him up to Jerusalem and set him on the highest wall of the Temple; and he said, "If you are son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written: God will order his angels to take care of you and again: They will hold you in their hands, lest you hurt your foot on the stones." But Jesus replied, "It is written: You shall not challenge the Lord your God."

When the devil had exhausted every way of tempting Jesus he left him, to return another time.

Commentary

'Tempted,' in the Scriptures, means 'put to the test.' Jesus was led (in Mark, driven) into the desert to be put to the test. For a start, the desert itself put him to the test. A desert gives you nothing to eat, it makes you feel utterly powerless, and it seems totally indifferent to your fate.

First a superficial interpretation. The three temptations of Jesus correspond to these three facts about deserts. He felt hungry, and when he looked at the stones he saw bread. (A Hindu poet who used to write a lot about the moon fell into great poverty, and whenever he looked at the moon now he saw only a chipatti!) Secondly, the feeling of powerlessness tempted Jesus to power, and thirdly the uncaring desert made him imagine God sending "his angel to care for you." All this may only mean that the devil has a feeling for place! At any rate, temptations are never just disembodied ideas.

A scholar says that Luke is thinking also of the Church when he describes this episode in the desert. The trials of Jesus are prolonged in his body the Church. It is the Church that is now in the desert, tempted by the devil. It is tempted to be only a material provider (in some instances providing just for itself); it is tempted to power, and it is tempted to what Italians call 'spettacolarismo'—pomp and show. The devil's sense of place and timing hasn't deserted him in the meantime.

At an individual level we can all look around us and investigate our particular temptations. They will be related to our own time and place, to the things nearest us, to our hungers, ambitions and fears. And they are not always obvious. The temptations of Jesus were not temptations to evil, but to limited kinds of goodness. How do you tempt a good person? With evil? No, he or she will not take that bait. You tempt them with goodness-but with some kind of short-term, self-defeating goodness. On this first Sunday of Lent the Church encourages us to look with clear sight at our temptations.

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This very important information is jointly organized and consolidated with the highest regard for accuracy and respect for the rights of the concerned persons in the list. We would like to apologize for not being able to come up with this earlier- as we had to confirm the boarding manifest against the list of actual rescued passengers. As of 5:00 PM, February 28, 2004 the following are the confirmed rescued survivors.

DESTINATION	LAST_NAME	FIRST_NAME	AGE	SEX
BCD 1	ABALOS	CRISTINA	20	F
CGY 2	ABATAY	JUDY ROYAN	14	F
CGY 3	ABCEDE	NINO MARLO	15	M
CGY 4	ABDULCADER AMARO	AHMAD	38	M
CGY 5	ABECIA	OPHELIA	33	F
CGY 6	ABNES	MICHAEL	25	M
CGY 7	ABUAD	HILTON	24	M
CGY 8	ABOC	LEAH MARIE	11	F
BCD 9	ADORADOR	JAYPEE	18	M
BCD 10	AFABLE	ROLLY	29	M
BCD 11	AGAWIN	FLOYD	33	M
BCD 12	AGAWIN	FE	35	F
BCD 13	AISA	RIZALDE	44	M
BCD 14	ALAGAO	LORYVIE	26	F
BCD 15	ALARCON	GERONCIO	27	M
BCD 16	ALCALA	JUN ROCKY	26	M
BCD 17	ALCOBER	MARIE ISABERA	11	F
CGY 18	ALCIAZON	ALDRICH	24	M
BCD 19	ALEJAGA	REY	16	M
BCD 20	ALEMAN NIA	LEAROSE	23	F
BCD 21	ALESNA	JOSEPH	31	M
BCD 22	ALESNA	PORFERIO	35	M
BCD 23	ALFARAS	ADRIAN	18	M
BCD 24	ALGEN	ALFREDO	32	M
BCD 25	ALISNA	SUSAN	27	F
BCD 26	ALIMATE	RICO SR	56	M
BCD 27	ALIMATE	RICO JR	30	M
BCD 28	ALMONIA	RESTITUTA	58	F
BCD 29	ALTUBAR	MRS VICENTA	38	F
BCD 30	AMAGON	MYLIA	29	F
BCD 31	AMAS	ARABELLA	35	F
BCD 32	AMOMAS	CATHY	21	F
BCD 33	AMPER	CHRISTINE	14	F
BCD 34	ANACTA	CHARITO	44	F
BCD 35	ANDRES	FRANCISCO JR	22	M
BCD 36	ANDRES	FRANCISCO SR	54	M
BCD 37	ANGGAY	AGNES	17	F
BCD 38	ANORA	NESTO	36	M
BCD 39	ANTONIO	LIRA	29	F
BCD 40	APINAGO	HAIDE	30	F
BCD 41	APONDAR	ARNOLFO	42	M
BCD 42	APOSTOL	MANUEL	74	M
BCD 43	ARCHES	ERWIN M.D.	38	M
BCD 44	ARGUENO	RYAN	10	M
BCD 45	ARGUENO	ROSMIE	37	F
CGY 46	ARELLANO	ROMEO	35	M
CGY 47	ARELLANO	MILA	35	F
BCD 48	ARSENAL	PRECIOSA	19	F
BCD 49	AUSTRIA	MRS PORTEA	35	F
BCD 50	AVANCENA	CHRISTOPHER	28	M
BCD 51	AYA-AY	TERESITA	52	F
BCD 52	BABAR	MARK	18	M
BCD 53	BABIAN	JENELYN	16	F
BCD 54	BACULANTA	EMMA	26	F
BCD 55	BADAN	ELSA	49	F
BCD 56	BALBOA	ELMAN	25	M
BCD 57	BALICANO	JUANITO	51	M
BCD 58	BALIDIONG	WELFRED	16	M
BCD 59	BANTOGOY	CECILIO	44	M
BCD 60	BARBASO	GENUINE	60	F
BCD 61	BARCELONA	CERENO	39	M
BCD 62	BARRERA	MARY JO	24	F
BCD 63	BARSOBIA	REINA	40	F
BCD 64	BARTE	REAGAN DAVID	22	M
BCD 65	BARTON	CARMELA	11	F
BCD 66	BASA	NORA	49	F
BCD 67	BATALLES	ELOISA	26	F
BCD 68	BATO MALANI	WINELYN	28	F
BCD 69	BATULGAS	REMIE	38	M
CGY 70	BAULITA	EMALYN	20	F
CGY 71	BAULITA	BEGONIA	32	F
BCD 72	BAULITA	JACQUELINE	19	F
BCD 73	BAUTISTA	JENNELYN	22	F
BCD 74	BAYLE	ALLAN	23	M
BCD 75	BEASCA	ROBERTO	37	M
BCD 76	BEASCA	ADELFA	40	F
BCD 77	BELONIO	BASILIO	55	M
BCD 78	BENITEZ	KRISTINA	19	F
BCD 79	BENITEZ	MELISSA	38	F
BCD 80	BENITEZ	EFREN	45	M
BCD 81	BENTUZAL	BENJIE	28	M
BCD 82	BENTUZAL	ANALIZA	30	F
BCD 83	BERMUDO	JEER CHRISTIAN	18	M
BCD 84	BERNARDINO	CARMELITA	42	F
BCD 85	BERNARDINO	VIRGILIO	64	M
CGY 86	BERRAS	ROSIE	45	F
BCD 87	BESTOR	RAYMUND	16	M
BCD 88	BOCADO	RAQUEL	31	F
BCD 89	BONGGA	LUCENA	57	F
BCD 90	BORDAJE	BLAZEL	22	F
BCD 91	BORDAJE	RANDY	24	M
BCD 92	BOTAVARA	ALEXANDER	30	M
BCD 93	BROCHTH	KRISTINA CAROLINA	10	F
BCD 94	BROGADA	NERISSA	24	F
BCD 95	BRUA	APPLE MARIE	15	F
BCD 96	BUNEL	JOEY	11	M
BCD 97	CABAHUG	JOVIE MAY	11	F
BCD 98	CABAHUG	FELIX JR	31	M
BCD 99	CABAUCAN	BELEN	41	F
BCD 100	CABALLERO	GIL	50	M
BCD 101	CABALLES	DECEMY	14	F
BCD 102	CABASON	LORENZA	41	F
BCD 103	CABASON	FLORENCIO	49	M
BCD 104	CABREROS	MARITES	21	F
BCD 105	CABUCOS	RIVIC	16	M
BCD 106	CADION	STEPHEN JOHN	18	M
BCD 107	CADION	MYRNA	29	F
BCD 108	CADUNAG	JEFFREY	15	M
BCD 109	CAGAMPANG	WENLY	24	M
BCD 110	CAGAS	FELICIANO	50	M
BCD 111	CAHATE	LUISA	34	F
BCD 112	CAJAYON	ADRIAN	18	M
BCD 113	CALAO	EMALINDA	42	F
BCD 114	CALDITO	REMEGIO	32	M
BCD 115	CALISO	BERNARDO JR	7	M
BCD 116	CALISO	LUZ	31	F
BCD 117	CAMUS	JULIUS	15	M
BCD 118	CAMUS	KRESELLE SHANE	16	F
BCD 119	CANGAYDA	SHEILA MAY	23	F
BCD 120	CANOSA	DR EVELYN	35	F
BCD 121	CAPAYAS	JASHOY	7	M
BCD 122	CAPAYAS	RHODA	30	F
BCD 123	CAPAYAS	JOEL	31	M
BCD 124	CAPUL	JOSHUA	31	M
BCD 125	CARPENTERO	ANNGEBEL	16	F
BCD 126	CARRACDO	LOREBINA	36	F
BCD 127	CARTAGENAS	MARY JANE	31	F
BCD 128	CASINO	SEGUNDINA	79	F
BCD 129	CASTILLA	ALFIE	18	M
BCD 130	CASTILLET	PETER	49	M
BCD 131	CASTILLO	CAROL MAE	26	F
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BCD 134	CASUYO	RAYMOND	25	M
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BCD 139	CAWALING	ARNOLD	27	M
BCD 140	CANAO	ANA CONVERE	33	F
BCD 141	CAYETONA	CRISTY	29	F
BCD 142	CELESTIAL	MICHAEL STEVE	16	M
BCD 143	CELLES	MARY JANE	19	F
BCD 144	CERBOLLES	ELIZABETH	41	F
BCD 145	CERBOLLES	JERRY	46	M
BCD 146	CERENO	CONTANCIA	51	F
BCD 147	CERO	MARICEL	40	F
BCD 148	CERVANTES	JULIE	23	F
BCD 149	CHAVEZ	ANGEL	6	F
BCD 150	CHAVEZ	MILA	47	F
BCD 151	CLAVER	FERNANDO	42	M
BCD 152	CLEMENTE	SORIEL	40	M
BCD 153	COLLADO	ROSELYN	24	F
BCD 154	CONENDO	ERNIE	25	M
BCD 155	CORDOVA	DWIGHT	24	M
BCD 156	CORNELIO	NELSA	31	F
BCD 157	CORPUZ	SUSAN	42	F
BCD 158	CRUZ	JULITA	58	F
BCD 159	CUADRA	ALMA	34	F
BCD 160	CUBACUB	LEONITO	39	M
BCD 161	CUERQUIS	MARIA DULCE	43	F
BCD 162	CULOB	ERNELL	28	M
BCD 163	CUSTODIO	MONALIZA	49	F
BCD 164	CUSTODIO	NAPOLEON	72	M
BCD 165	CUSTODIO	MELANI	24	F
BCD 166	DAABAY	GERLIE	23	F
CGY 167	DAAYATA	CONCHITTA	52	F
BCD 168	DADANG	RAQUEL	22	F
BCD 169	DAGUITERA	ANGELITO	34	M
BCD 170	DAGUPAN	RICARDO	54	M
BCD 171	DALISAY	FELIPE	21	M
BCD 172	DARAS	MARY ROSE	25	F
BCD 173	DAVALES	SHERLEEN	25	F
BCD 174	DAVAS	RESTITUTO	39	M
BCD 175	DAYLE	ALLAN JAY	3	M
BCD 176	DAYLE	NORLIE	27	F
BCD 177	DAYLE	JOSMILO	33	M
BCD 178	DE JOSE	RUTCHEL	24	F
BCD 179	DE LA CRUZ	ANTONIO	47	M
BCD 180	DE LEON	LODEVINA	50	F
BCD 181	DE PEDRO	MAGDALINO III	18	M
BCD 182	DEL ROSARIO	ROSSDELYN	20	F
BCD 183	DELA CRUZ	DARRY	18	M
BCD 184	DELA CRUZ	ELLEN	19	F
BCD 185	DELA CRUZ	BRIX	31	M
BCD 186	DELADA	BERNADETTE LEE	14	F
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BCD 196	DOCEJO	EDELYN	18	F
BCD 197	DOLENDO	NICANOR	33	M
BCD 198	DOLENDO	ERNEST JOHN	13	M
BCD 199	DOMO	LODE	23	F
BCD 200	DONCILLO	GODOFREDO	22	M
BCD 201	DONESA	DIANA	20	F
BCD 202	DOTON	ROSEBEL	26	F
BCD 203	DUMAGUING	MRS NENITA	58	F
BCD 204	ECIM	CHRISTINE	24	F
BCD 205	ELAGO	LAILANIE	30	F
BCD 206	ELLOREN	IDELITA	40	F
BCD 207	ENAD	MEMIE	24	F
BCD 208	ENERIO	MARK RODEL	15	M
BCD 209	ERENO	JUNIFER	20	M
BCD 210	ERENO	GINA	29	F
BCD 211	ERNAL	JOHN RICHARD	23	M
BCD 212	ERO	MILDRED	44	F
BCD 213	ESCLAMADO	ELMER	28	M
BCD 214	ESCLETO	MARICON	21	F
BCD 215	ESCONDE	ALMA	19	F
BCD 216	ESPINOSA	RENAN	15	M
BCD 217	ESPIRITO	LEAH LOISA	15	F
BCD 218	ESPIRITU	NONIE	33	F
BCD 219	ESTABILLO	ROSELYN	38	F
BCD 220	ESTAMPADOR	SUZETTE	24	F
BCD 221	ESTRADA	PABLITO	24	M
CGY 222	EVASCO	HEMIE	24	F
BCD 223	FERNANDO	JOEL	25	M
CGY 224	FERRER	ERWIN	18	M
CGY 225	FORTALEZA	VIVIAN	53	F
CGY 226	FORTALEZA	ROGELIO	56	M
CGY 227	FRANCISCO	JOMARIE	21	M
CGY 228	FRONDOSO	ANALYN	29	F
CGY 229	FUEGO	JAY-LHEEN	22	F
CGY 230	GABATAN	ROSARY ANN	18	F
CGY 231	GALANO	ESTRELLITA	36	F
CGY 232	GALARRITA	MEDARDA	50	F
CGY 233	GALAS	VIRGIE	59	F
CGY 234	GALIMBA	JULIE ANN	23	F
CGY 235	GALVEZ	JHERICA	3	F
CGY 236	GALVEZ	REYNANTE	22	M
CGY 237	GALVEZ	JOVY	26	F
CGY 238	GALVEZ	MARITES	29	F
CGY 239	GALVEZ	RICHARD	29	M
CGY 240	GALVEZ	ROD	31	M
CGY 241	GAMBOA	MARY LOU JEANE	27	F
CGY 242	GANDAN	MAYNARD	20	M
CGY 243	GAPOY	RAMIE	18	M
CGY 244	GARCIA	NILO	32	M
CGY 245	GARCIA	JOEMARIE	21	M
CGY 246	GARCIA	HARRY	40	M
CGY 247	GARGACERAN	MINERVA	28	F
CGY 248	GARGALLANO	NELLY	70	F
CGY 249	GARGANIAN	ROLANDO	38	M
CGY 250	GAYAO	ELDEN MARGIE	40	F
CGY 251	GELLA	EVA	42	F
CGY 252	GELLAR SR.	FELIPE	44	M
CGY 253	GENERAL	FLORITA	53	F
CGY 254	GENERALES	ESTRELLA	47	F
CGY 255	GERANO	JOSEPH NATHAN	18	M
CGY 256	GERONGAY	MARIJA	40	F
CGY 257	GERONGAY	NICOLAS	40	M
CGY 258	GLANDA	MARITES	16	F
CGY 259	GOMEZ	JAIME	36	M
BCD 260	GONZAGA	JUNE	28	F
CGY 261	GONZAGA	ERNEST	39	M
CGY 262	GRADO	GILBERT	26	M
CGY 263	GRECIA	LOU	36	M
CGY 264	GUANZON	DOLORES	75	F
CGY 265	GUBANTES	GUILLERMA	34	F
CGY 266	GUEVARRA	REGIE MARIE	43	F
CGY 267	GUEVARRA	TOMAS	45	M
CGY 268	GUILLEN	EMILO	18	M
CGY 269	GUNIA	CHAHARY	15	M
CGY 270	GUVIO	ABRAHAM	65	M
CGY 271	GUMAPAC	NITA	45	F
CGY 272	GUTANG	RODERICK FERNAND	15	M
CGY 273	HAJA	CARMEN	45	F
CGY 274	HALLASGO	MARINA	45	F
CGY 275	HALLAZGO	ELNA	24	F
CGY 276	HEMBRA	REDENTOR	26	M
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CGY 279	ILANO	VIVIAN	41	F
CGY 280	IRONES	ELSIE	32	F
CGY 281	ISK	GEORGE	32	M
CGY 282	JABAGAT	CELESTE MAE	11	F
CGY 283	JARANTILLA	ALFIE	18	M
BCD 284	JAVELLANA	CHERYL	27	F
BCD 285	JAVELLANA	RENJAN	31	M
BCD 286	JAVELLANA	ROBERTO	53	M
BCD 287	JAVELLANA	CELIA	50	F
CGY 288	JORGE	PHITERSON	26	M
CGY 289	KING	TRISISANN YOCHABEL	10	F
BCD 290	KOCHOA	CRIS	27	F
CGY 291	KOLE	ALVARO	18	M
CGY 292	LABADAN	REYNA MARIE	14	F
CGY 293	LABIAL	JESSIE	42	F
CGY 294	LABOR	EDGAR	24	M
CGY 295	LABRADOR	DELIA	34	F
CGY 296	LACUSTAN	NILVERIO	41	M
CGY 297	LAGO	BELLA	54	F
CGY 298	LAGROSAS	NOLI	66	M
BCD 299	LAKANDULA	TERESITA	61	F
CGY 300	LAKANDULA	REYNALDO	13	M
CGY 301	LAKANDULA	ARNEL	26	M
BCD 302	LAMAYO	REYNANTE	33	M
CGY 303	LAMPASO	JOEY	15	M
CGY 304	LANZON	ANTHONY	16	M
CGY 305	LANAJA	MILA	34	F
CGY 306	LANAJA	LILIAN	36	F
CGY 307	LANAJA	RAMIL	22	M
CGY 308	LANAJA	JONOR	24	M
BCD 309	LASTIERRE	GEA	22	F
CGY 310	LATOZA	CHAD	18	M
CGY 311	LAURIO	NARCISA	53	F
CGY 312	LAURON	SHERLITA	36	F
CGY 313	LAYOS	RHEA VANISSA	12	F
CGY 314	LEDESMA	NICO	16	M
CGY 315	LEDESMA	MARIANO	49	M
CGY 316	LEDON	JOSE JR	23	M
CGY 317	LELESTE	FERLY	18	M
CGY 318	LEONIDA	LARRY	18	M
BCD 319	LEYBA	JEFFREY	19	M
CGY 320	LIBOHON	DEXTER	18	M
CGY 321	LIBRON	CHRISTINE	19	F
CGY 322	LIMCANGCO	REY AMADO	35	M
CGY 323	LINAO	JOHANNA INDIA	15	F
BCD 324	LIGAY	BENIE	35	M
CGY 325	LOFRANCO	MA EARL CHRISTY	10	F
CGY 326	LOGNO	EUGENE	20	M
CGY 327	LOPEZ	MARY SHENNETH	15	F
CGY 328	LOYAO	NELSON	16	M
CGY 329	MAAGAD	SENON JR	33	M
CGY 330	MACALAM	JONATHAN	18	M
CGY 331	MACAPIA	ABDULLAH	20	M
CGY 332	MACAS	JANNE VIVIENNE	11	F
CGY 333	MADANGUIT	AIZA	19	F
CGY 334	MAGALONA	FEBELYN	25	F
CGY 335	MAGDALES	QUINTON JOHN	16	M
CGY 336	MAGNAONG	MA JEPNA	32	F
CGY 337	MAGNAONG	PRISTINE	14	F
CGY 338	MALIFER	MRS ALMA	54	F
CGY 339	MALLORCA	MARILOU	33	F
BCD 340	MALONE	SHEILA	20	F
CGY 341	MALTEZO	RAPUNZEL	22	F
CGY 342	MAMA	BASHARY	31	M
CGY 343	MANGAOANG	ARTURO	62	M
CGY 344	MANSUETO	MARLON	26	M
CGY 345	MANTO	LAURENCE JAY	3	M
CGY 346	MARAMARA	ELENA	31	F
CGY 347	MARANON	RODOLFO	26	M
CGY 348	MARANON	MARIETA	30	F
CGY 349	MARCELLENA	MARVIN	23	M
CGY 350	MARINAS	MANNY	25	M
CGY 351	MASANGYA	PEREGRINO	33	M
BCD 352	MATIAS	MELINDA	19	F
CGY 353	MAYORDOMO	JUAN	18	M
CGY 354	MENDOZA	EDELIZA	35	F
CGY 355	MERLYN	SULAGUE	46	F
CGY 356	MISTULA	CARLA	32	F
CGY 357	MOLINA	LEODINIA	53	F
CGY 358	MOLINA	MATEO	53	M
CGY 359	MONGAN	CESAR	43	M
CGY 360	MONTALBAN	DONNA	34	F
CGY 361	MONTIL	JOHANNA FATIMA	16	F
CGY 362	MORALES	VICTOR	28	M
CGY 363	MORENO	ATHENA LOI	16	F
BCD 364	MORIN	JOVEY	31	M
BCD 365	MORIN	MARIAN	41	F
BCD 366	MORIN	REYNALDO	56	M
CGY 367	MOSQUERA	ROMEO	65	M
CGY 368	NADJA	RODELY	24	F
CGY 369	NADUNA	MARICHRIS	19	F
CGY 370	NADUNA	JUNRE	24	M
CGY 371	NAPERE	ROBERTO	22	M
CGY 372	NER	CONSUELO	33	F
CGY 373	NILLOS	FRANCISCO	34	M
CGY 374	NITSHA	CANDIE JANE	18	F
CGY 375	NITSHA	ZALDY	43	M
CGY 376	NONO	RODNEY	13	M
CGY 377	OCAYA	ANA LIZA	36	F
CGY 378	OCHOMORENA	VICTORIA	35	F
CGY 379	OCO	RANDY	21	M
CGY 380	OCTAVIANO	FILOMENA	76	F
CGY 381	OFLAS	ALJANN	24	F
CGY 382	OLAYRES	JAY	21	M
CGY 383	OLIVAN	JESSON	16	M
CGY 384	OMBAN	VIRGIE	36	F
CGY 385	ONG	AREEN MAE	11	F
CGY 386	PABORAL NAN	LEO	28	M
BCD 387	PACHECO	ROSALIE	16	F
CGY 388	PACUR SOT	LUISA	33	F
CGY 389	PADRONES	JOY	20	F
CGY 390	PADRONES	REMEDIOS	63	F
CGY 391	PAGLINAWAN	LALAINE	34	F
CGY 392	PAGUIA	ONOFRE	69	M
CGY 393	PAJANTOY	AL ADE JOHN	11	M
CGY 394	PALAMINE	AYESSA TRICIA FAYE	16	F
CGY 395	PALAMINE	LENY	16	F
BCD 396	PALERMO	JONA	27	F
CGY 397	PALMARES	MARGARITA	75	F
CGY 398	PALUGA JR	MARIO	15	M
CGY 399	PANALIGAN	JASMIN	31	F
CGY 400	PARCON	HERNADO JR	16	M
CGY 401	PATADOL	HERCULANO	60	M
CGY 402	PATRICIO	MA ESTRELLA	20	F
CGY 403	PECORE	NESTOR	43	M
CGY 404	PEDRENA	MELCHOR	39	M
CGY 405	PELIAS	MRS HAZEL	35	F
CGY 406	PEREZ	LILIBETH	32	F
CGY 407	PERSON	GLEENA	63	F
CGY 408	PESTOLANTE	LEODEGARIA	50	F
CGY 409	PILUDEN	ESPIE	54	F
CGY 410	PILUDEN	ATENOR	59	M
CGY 411	PIMATASAN	CLARITA	40	F
CGY 412	PIRANTE	AIRAM ABIGAIL	8	F
CGY 413	PIRANTE	SUSAN	37	F
CGY 414	PLANTAS	CRIS JOCERYL	15	F
CGY 415	PONTERAS	VIVENCIO	27	M
BCD 416	PORRAS	ISAGANI	32	M
BCD 417	PUEDA	ENRICO	52	M
CGY 418	QUIAZON	JOSE JR	39	M
CGY 419	QUIBIAT	FRANCES MAE	14	F
CGY 420	QUIJANO	CYRILL	11	M
CGY 421	QUILESTE	RONALD	16	M
CGY 422	RAFOLS	CRESENCIA	39	F
CGY 423	RASNABE	EUSTROPIA	67	F
CGY 424	RAVINA JR	EDUARDO	51	M
CGY 425	REBEJICA	BONNIE GLEN	26	M
CGY 426	REBEJICA	KATHERYN	32	F
CGY 427	REMACABAN	RANDOPLH	18	M
CGY 428	RENDON	ROSSANA	22	F
CGY 429	REPONTE	JOAN	21	F
CGY 430	RESMA	DINAH	24	F
CGY 431	REYES	RIZA	11	F
CGY 432	REYES	LUCIA	64	F
CGY 433	RICOTE JR	ERIC	23	M
CGY 434	RINON	RONALDO	24	M
CGY 435	ROBLES	MICHAEL	16	M
CGY 436	ROBLES	REMEDIOS	40	F
BCD 437	ROCERO	RACQUEL	24	F
BCD 438	ROCERO	ALLAN	32	M
CGY 439	RODRIGUEZ	SUSAN	27	F
CGY 440	ROJAS	MANUELITO	54	M
CGY 441	ROSAL	NORMA	52	F
CGY 442	ROSCALES	RIO	18	M
CGY 443	SABANTO	CHEROBEL	3	M
CGY 444	SABANTO	MARIBEL	37	F
CGY 445	SAGUING	JANUS EZRA	16	M
CGY 446	SAGUING	DELILAH	47	F
CGY 447	SALAS	CHERRY ANN	11	F
CGY 448	SALAZAR	FREZEL MAY	18	F
CGY 449	SALDITOS	DANILO	40	M
CGY 450	SALHAY	RUSSEL PAUL	27	M
CGY 451	SALIABRO	AGAPITA	50	F
CGY 452	SALON	KESHIA	11	F
CGY 453	SALUGSUGAN	ROSITA	58	F
CGY 454	SAMANA	JULITO	29	M
CGY 455	SAMSON	GEMMA	35	F
CGY 456	SANCO	GIOVANI	16	M
CGY 457	SANTILLAN	LUCITA	54	F
CGY 458	SARDO	RODEL	25	M
CGY 459	SARIPADA	ABDL	22	M
BCD 460	SATURNINO	RICHARD	27	M
CGY 461	SAYO	GLENDA	19	F
CGY 462	SAYO	EMMA	59	F
CGY 463	SAYSON	ERNESTO	51	M
BCD 464	SAYSON	EVELYN	47	F
CGY 465	SAYSON	MARILYN	26	F
CGY 466	SENIT	BONNIE	28	M
CGY 467	SENORIO	ROBERTO	18	M
CGY 468	SEROY	ROSENA	49	F
CGY 469	SEROY	LEONORA	65	F
CGY 470	SERRANO	LILIA	54	F
CGY 471	SERRANO	JULIUS	15	M
BCD 472	SICAT	ESTER JACINTA	53	F
BCD 473	SILVERIO	MARY JEAN	40	F
CGY 474	SIMACON	ARTEMIO	53	M
BCD 475	SIMBAHON	ALAN	30	M
BCD 476	SINGNA	REGINA	36	F
CGY 477	SISON	LEAH	35	F
CGY 478	SIYA	CORAZON	56	F
CGY 479	SOLACITO	MARIEL	28	M
CGY 480	SOLIS	SUZETTE	23	F
CGY 481	SOMBILON	MELISA	25	F
CGY 482	SUARNABA	LYREX	16	M
CGY 483	SUBALAN	CRESILDA	27	F
CGY 484	SUBIDO	FLORCELIZA	52	F
CGY 485	SULTAN	GERELYN	26	F
CGY 486	SUNGLAO	GEORGE JR	63	M
CGY 487	SUSON	HANNA ASHLEY ALANA	11	F
CGY 488	TABANAO	MARLITA	38	F
CGY 489	TABINAS	JEMA	12	F
CGY 490	TACUBAO	AMMARIE	18	F
CGY 491	TAGAYUNA	ERNESTO	22	M
CGY 492	TAGUPA	HYACINTH	13	F
CGY 493	TALASAN	NENITA	40	F
CGY 494	TALJA	MELISSA	24	F
CGY 495	TAN	EDDMA	11	F
CGY 496	TAN	ALFREDO	65	M
CGY 497	TANEO	AILYN	10	F
CGY 498	TANZO	LEAH NENEZ	11	F
CGY 499	TARAN	ERIC	30	M
CGY 500	TARLAC	ANATALIA	55	F
CGY 501	TEATRO	MRS FREDESWINDA	36	F
CGY 502	TEJANO	EDUARDO	42	M
CGY 503	TELERO	JACINTO	47	M
CGY 504	TEOPE	MA ELENA	34	F
CGY 505	TEPINO	MARIE GRACE	35	F
CGY 506	TESORO	LUCILLE	42	F
CGY 507	TIAUSON	OLIVER	18	M
CGY 508	TICAR	NOEL	19	M
CGY 509	TIGBABAO	PERLITA	46	F
CGY 510	TIGUELO	RENNIFA	23	F
CGY 511	TIROL	JONES JR	25	M
CGY 512	TRESTIZA	JETRO	18	M
CGY 513	TUBA	CEL MARIE EVE	14	F
CGY 514	TUBIO	NELIA	22	F
CGY 515	UBAN	GIL	35	M
CGY 516	UCAB	JOHNRI	24	M
CGY 517	UCAT	EVELYN	22	F
CGY 518	UGSALAN	ALICIA	29	F
CGY 519	UMBAN	ROSITA	62	F
CGY 520	UY	MARIEDOL	22	F
CGY 521	VALDEVILLA	GRACE	11	F
CGY 522	VALDEVILLA	JUSL GRACE	15	F
CGY 523	VAN EEKEN	FE	42	F
CGY 524	VAN EEKEN	AL WILLEM	50	M
CGY 525	VANZUELA	VALMAR	20	M
CGY 526	VARGAS	EMMA	40	F
CGY 527	VELARDE	ARACELI	45	F
CGY 528	VICENTE	MARSHERL	36	F
BCD 529	VICTORIANO	LEONISA	43	F
CGY 530	VILLACIN	HELEN GRACE	15	F
BCD 531	VILLALON	VERGEL	41	M
CGY 532	VILLANUEVA	BILLY	49	M
CGY 533	VILLANUEVA	JULIE	49	F
CGY 534	VILLANUEVA	MACIEL	26	F
CGY 535	VILLEGAS	MARILOU	39	F
CGY 536	VINCO	NICANOR	53	M
CGY 537	VISTAL	HYDIE	23	F
CGY 538	VITER	PRECILA	35	F
CGY 539	VIVARES	SHERYL ROSE	11	F
CGY 540	YABA	MARIA	69	F
CGY 541	YAMIT	DEN MAY	11	F
CGY 542	YGAY	RUTH	36	F
CGY 543	YULO	MIKO	26	M
CGY 544	ZARCENO	ROMMEL	18	M
CGY 545	ZAYAS	CLINT ERVIN	11	M
CGY 546	ZAYAS	DINARA	33	F

MINOR

1 CDO	[illegible]	Kim	4 Bac	Castillo	Mia
2 CDO	[illegible]	[illegible]	5 Bac	[illegible]	[illegible]
3 CDO	[illegible]	Kyla	6 Bac	[illegible]	Rachelle
7 Bac	Cuenca	Clarissa	14 Bac	[illegible]	Cris Carl
8 CDO	[illegible]	[illegible]	15 Bac	Patrana	[illegible]
9 CDO	Daye	Rosemarie	16 Bac	Patrana	Junior
10 Bac	[illegible]	Hanna Marie	17 Bac	[illegible]	[illegible]
11 Bac	[illegible]	Diana Mae	18 Bac	Rosero	Angeline
12 CDO	Laga	Trisha	19 CDO	[illegible]	[illegible]
13 Bac	Lim	Ruthie			

CREW

DEPARTMENT FOOD AND BEVERAGE

1	[illegible]	PERCIVAL	18	GARRIDO	ROLANDO
2	ALAMILLO	R.E.	19	JAYNA JR	BENJAMIN
3	ALVAR	ELIZABETH DINAH	20	[illegible]	ROLAND
4	ASCANO	ANNIE	21	MIRANDA	JAMES FRANCIS
5	BARRIOS	MARICEL	22	[illegible]	DANTE
6	BASCO	WEVERLYN ANNE	23	QUESA	JOLLY
7	BONTOGON	ELAN	24	RANARIO	ELMER
8	BUSIL	MANUEL	25	SALCEDO	MICHELLE
9	CABILDAN	JEFFREY	26	[illegible]	ERIC
10	CANONES	RANDY	27	SERAPION	MALVIN
11	CAUNCA	[illegible]	28	SILVESTRE	GERRY
12	CEPE	ANNABEL	29	SISON	TEOFILO
13	COMPLESTO	MANUEL PONCE	30	SOLANO	JAYSON
14	ESPIRITU	ROLANDO	31	TULBAS	ROLANDO
15	FIGUERAS	RICHARD	32	[illegible]	JOY
16	GALANO	BERNARD	33	[illegible]	RENE
17	GARCERA	JOSE MARIO	34	VEDIA	LIBERATO JR

DEPARTMENT TECHNICAL

1	ABUGAN	CARLOS	22	[illegible]	EDWIN
2	ALEGOS	CARLITO	23	[illegible]	CEFERINO
3	ALVARDO	GILBERT	24	MARTINEZ	PAUL MICHAEL
4	ARBAN	ROLAN	25	MICHAEL	KARL
5	[illegible]	[illegible]	26	[illegible]	EDWIN
6	[illegible]	[illegible]	27	[illegible]	RAFAEL
7	[illegible]	JOCELYN	28	[illegible]	DALE
8	[illegible]	MICHAEL	29	[illegible]	FELINO
9	CAMACHO	JOSBERT	30	[illegible]	[illegible]
10	[illegible]	ROLANDO	31	[illegible]	NOEL
11	CHIONG	JOSEPH	32	[illegible]	KRISTOFER
12	CURANO	[illegible]	33	[illegible]	[illegible]
13	CUSTODIO	RONALD	34	SARMIENTO	BRIAN
14	[illegible]	[illegible]	35	[illegible]	RITCHIE
15	EVANGELISTA	RANDY	36	[illegible]	[illegible]
16	FLORES	ROLLY	37	[illegible]	[illegible]
17	GALANG	ANGEL JOSE	38	[illegible]	[illegible]
18	GOMEZ	RUBEN	39	[illegible]	[illegible]
19	[illegible]	CHRISTOPHER	40	[illegible]	NICOLAS
20	[illegible]	RENATO	41	VERGARA	DEXTER
21	[illegible]	JAY			

DEPARTMENT HOUSEKEEPING

1	[illegible]	[illegible]	22	[illegible]	[illegible]
2	ALBAO	FERDINAND	23	[illegible]	MARLON
3	[illegible]	JORY	24	MANGONON	EFREN
4	[illegible]	[illegible]	25	MARTINEZ	JAY
5	BALDOS	RONALD	26	[illegible]	FRANCISCO
6	BANCALAN	NAPOLEON	27	[illegible]	ANTHONY
7	[illegible]	NORMAN	28	[illegible]	[illegible]
8	[illegible]	NOEL	29	[illegible]	FRANCIS NOLAN
9	[illegible]	SALVACION	30	[illegible]	RICKY
10	CASTAÑEDA	JOEMER	31	[illegible]	ELENO
11	[illegible]	[illegible]	32	PORTILLANO	JOREN
12	CRUZ	MICHAEL	33	[illegible]	MICHAEL
13	CUSTODIO	FLORIBEL	34	REYES	ALVIN
14	[illegible]	RUBY	35	[illegible]	ALLAN
15	DOMINGO	[illegible]	36	[illegible]	JEROME JOHN
16	[illegible]	[illegible]	37	[illegible]	BRIAN
17	ESCOBEDO	EDWIN	38	SILVAS	JOHANNES
18	[illegible]	CHRISTINE	39	VALENTINO	SHARON
19	[illegible]	SHIRLEY	40	[illegible]	[illegible]
20	[illegible]	[illegible]	41	[illegible]	KENT ANTHONY
21	[illegible]	RONNIE	42	VICTORIANO	[illegible]

DEPARTMENT SHOPS

1	[illegible]	NESTOR
2	[illegible]	MARLON
3	ARBAN	RICHARD
4	[illegible]	JONA
5	GONZAGA	CYREL
6	[illegible]	JEFF
7	[illegible]	NOEL
8	[illegible]	FRANCIS
9	[illegible]	[illegible]
10	[illegible]	MARLON

DEPARTMENT ONBOARD TRAINEES

1	[illegible]	RICHARD
2	REYES	VINCENT BENJAMIN
3	RODRIGUEZ	GIOVANNI

DEPARTMENT MAINTENANCE

1	CEREMONIA	EDWIN
2	[illegible]	GUILLERMO
3	[illegible]	REY
4	[illegible]	ERICK
5	[illegible]	REYNALDO

DEPARTMENT HOTEL

1	ALBERTO	[illegible]
2	[illegible]	ERWIN
3	[illegible]	ALLAN DEAN
4	[illegible]	[illegible]
5	RAFAEL	ELAINE CLAIRE
6	SANTOS	JONIE

DEPARTMENT AUDIT

1	[illegible]	CATHERINE

ENTERTAINER

1	[illegible]	[illegible]
2	FLORES	[illegible]
3	FLORES	[illegible]
4	[illegible]	[illegible]

DEPARTMENT FINANCE

1	ESTAMPADOR	SUZETTE

The [illegible] call centers were able to [illegible] families of many of the survivors and were able to confirm that many of the survivors were home without registering with the PCG and [illegible] passenger assistance and processing centers.

We believe that there may be more passengers [illegible] who may have gone home without informing these centers.

We would like to appeal to anyone who can give us additional information on other passengers who are not in the foregoing list.

We would like to inform all the relatives of the missing passengers to please proceed to the Philippine Ports Authority [illegible] Pier 15 South Harbor Manila. For regular updates you may call the [illegible] Call Center.

Telephones [illegible]

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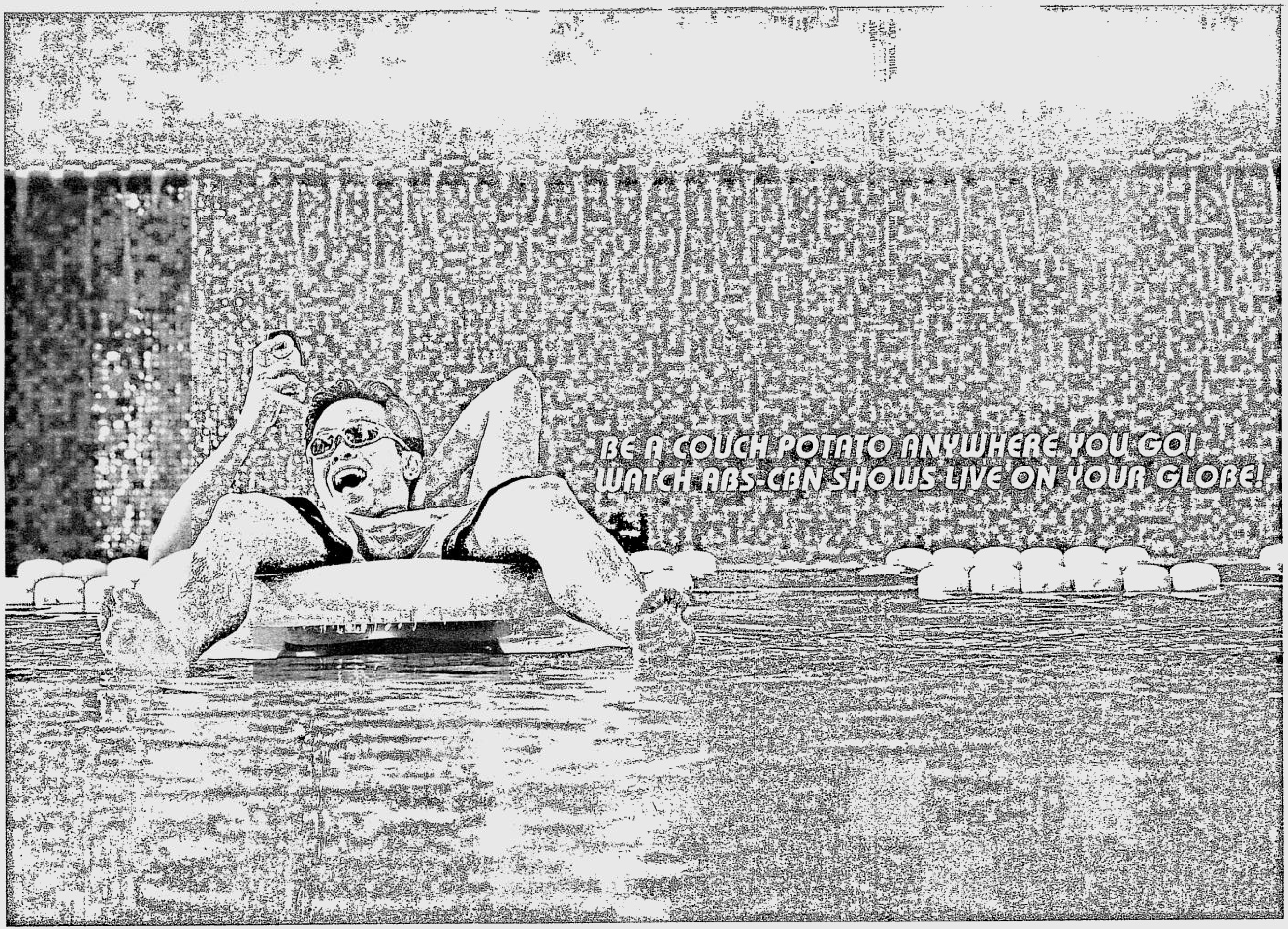
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By Jerome Aning

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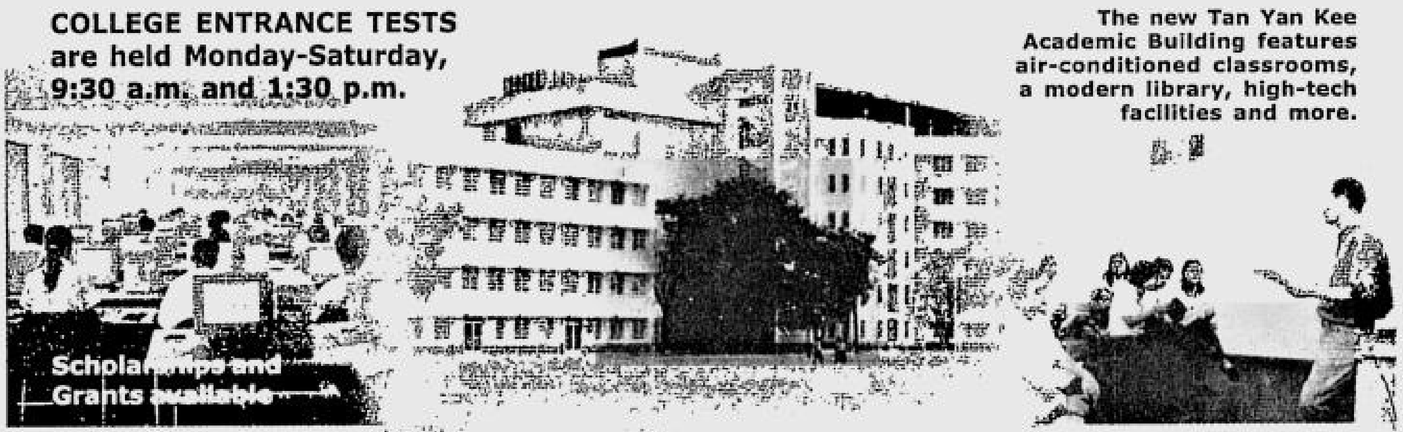

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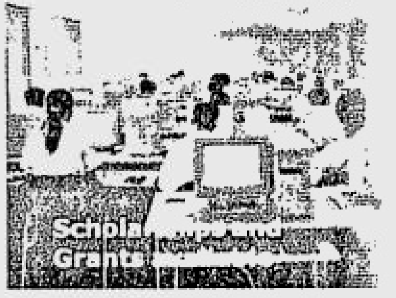

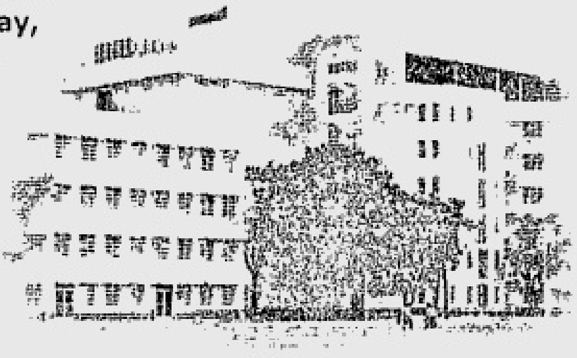

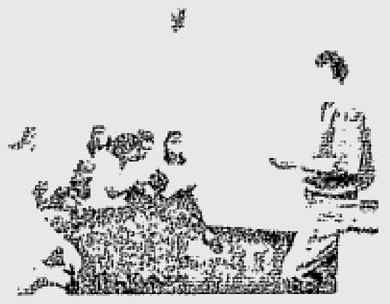

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RP to help Vietnam check bird flu

THE PHILIPPINES will be sending a team of epidemiologists to Vietnam next week as part of the country's effort to halt the regional spread of the dreaded bird flu virus.

Foreign Affairs Secretary Delia Albert, who leaves for Vietnam today to meet with her counterparts in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, said sending the epidemiologists was "a further manifestation of our heightened sense of partnership with Vietnam and assistance to a friendly neighbor and fellow member of Asean."

The bird flu crisis would be among the topics in the three-day meeting at Ha Long City, Albert said.

She said her office was coordinating with the Department of Health regarding the number of disease-control experts to be sent to Vietnam.

The foreign ministers' gathering takes place as a United Nations-arranged conference meets in Bangkok, Thailand to find ways to contain the virus.

Jerome Aning

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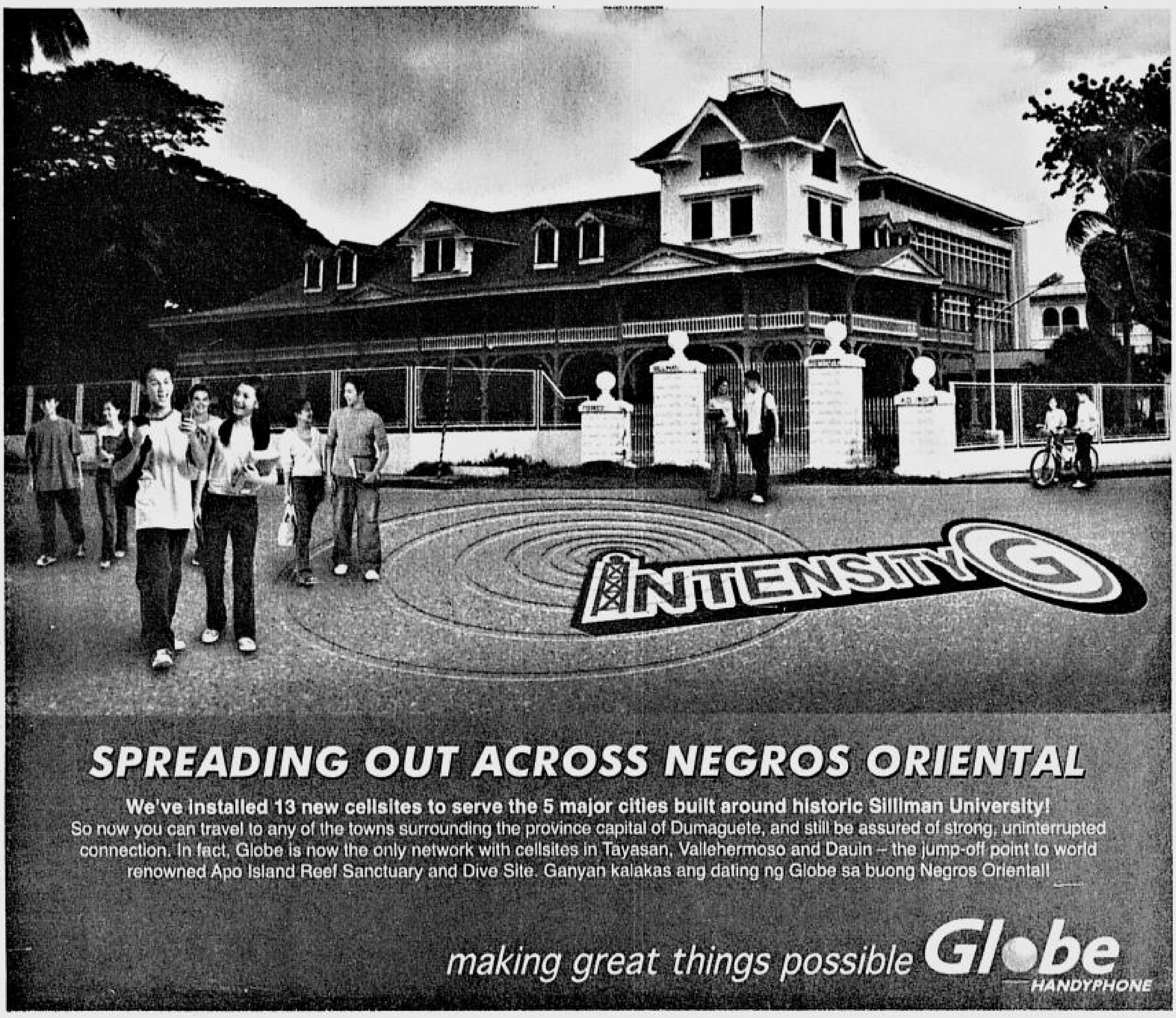

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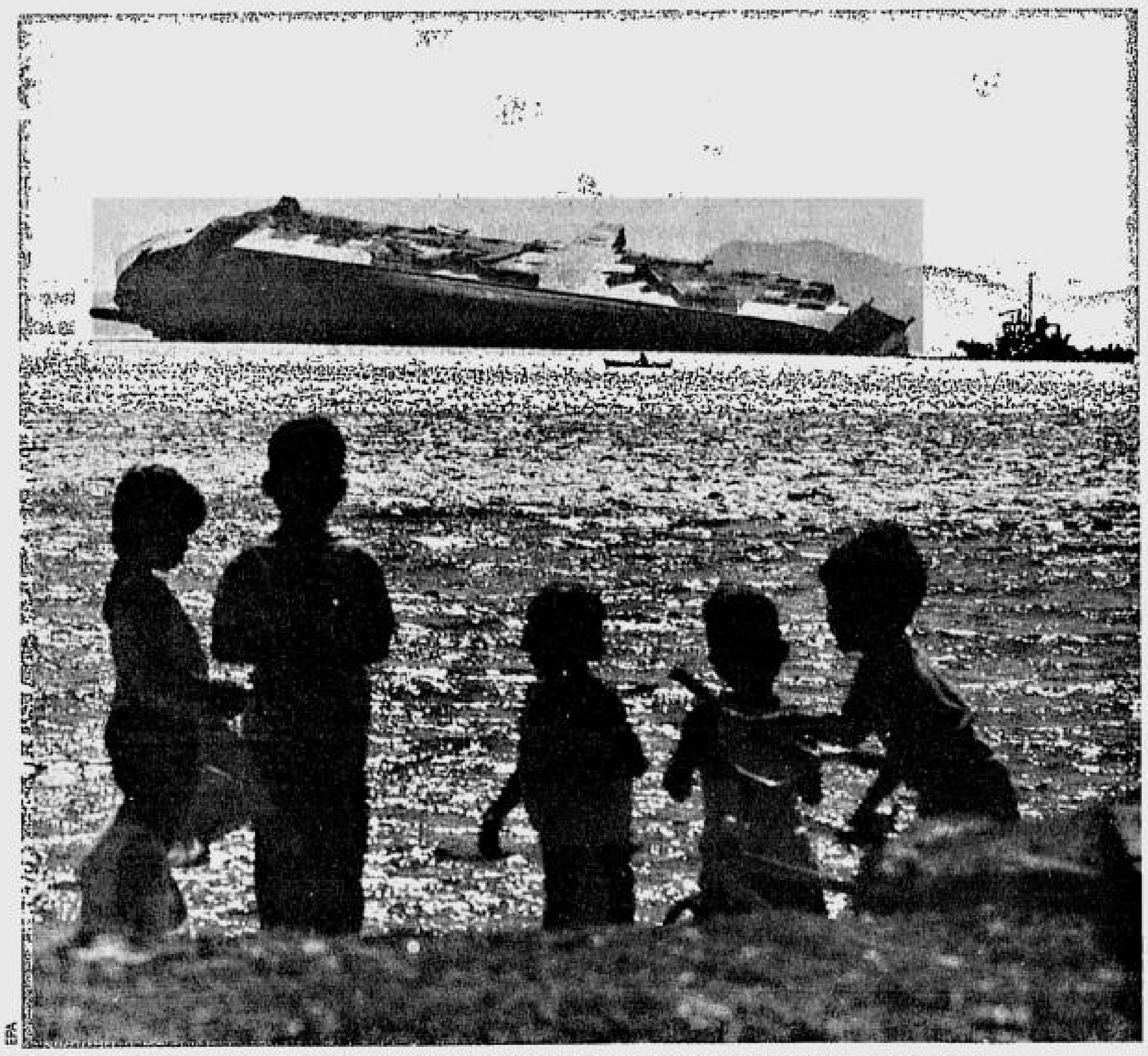

EPA

CHILDREN will be children, unmindful of the SuperFerry wreckage off the shore of Mariveles, Bataan.

Long wait for the missing

From page A1

tourist deck at 12:50 a.m. on Friday, killing at least one person.

Its owners said yesterday that contrary to an INQUIRER report, the ship had no history of fires. Corporate communications manager Gina Virtusio also clarified her statement during Friday's press conference that three other SuperFerry ships, and not SuperFerry 14, had caught fire before.

Virtusio was responding to a question about SuperFerry ships catching fire in the past when she mentioned that three such incidents had taken place earlier, including one in the Cebu shipyard.

No news

No more survivors or fatalities had been reported as of 4:30 p.m. yesterday, making sleepless relatives waiting at the PCG office even more anxious.

Gosingan said nobody was spotted around or inside the steel-hulled ship yesterday afternoon. He refused to answer when asked whether he believed that anyone was still trapped inside.

He also could not say exactly how many passengers were still unaccounted for. He said the PCG and SuperFerry management would still have to reconcile their figures.

But he said only one person had so far been confirmed dead, although the person, a male aged 40-41, 5'7 tall and clad in red shorts, remained unidentified.

Earlier reports quoted the PCG as saying that 112 of the 879 passengers and crew members remained unaccounted for.

Gosingan said that after a review of the figures, he hoped that the number of the missing would be lowered.

The Associated Press quoted Virtusio as saying that the crew did a fast check of the ship to ensure that no passengers would be left behind before the evacuation.

But she could not rule out the possibility that some people might have stayed on the ship.

"Of course, we cannot confirm that until we're able to account for all the missing," Virtusio said.

A teary-eyed Rowena Caniasa said her 71-year-old mother was among the missing.

"We were assured by the Coast Guard that nobody was left on the ship," she said, wondering why her mother had not been found.

No terrorism till proven

Gosingan said he was ruling out terrorism or sabotage as the cause of the fire.

"We will reject [terrorism as a cause] until it is proven," he told reporters in an interview shortly after arriving from an aerial inspection of the ship.

He said that with the safety measures being observed aboard seagoing vessels, it was not likely that anyone could have planted explosives on the ship.

In a subsequent press conference, Gosingan said there could have been other possible causes of the explosion, including a malfunctioning boiler, an air-conditioning system or other equipment with pressurized gas.

He also told radio station dzMM: "In the inspection of baggage and passengers, we can say that we didn't see anything like bombs or anything destructive."

Survivors interviewed earlier said they heard an explosion before they saw smoke seeping into their rooms.

One survivor said the explosion was so loud that he felt his cabin shake.

AP quoted PCG apprentice Jess Galicah as saying that SuperFerry 14 had a capacity of 1,672 passengers. It was built in Japan about 15 years ago and had been operated by WG&A for the last three years.

Don't stop rescue

In Malacañang, President Macapagal-Arroyo ordered authorities not to call off search and rescue operations until all passengers and crew had been accounted for.

"We must keep their families and the public posted regularly of the developments," the President said in a statement.

She also ordered the Department of Transportation and Communications to speed up the investigation into the latest sea tragedy.

"The authorities will get to the bottom of this incident by ferreting out the real circumstances behind the fire and take steps to ensure it does not happen again," she said.

Ms Macapagal also directed the DOTC to "come up soonest with stricter guidelines in the implementation of our maritime laws."

The President's spokesperson Ignacio Bunye said she had instructed the Department of Social Welfare and Development and other agencies to extend assistance to the victims.

Ready to assist

Senior Supt. Joel Goltiao, PNP spokesperson, confirmed that scene-of-the-crime investigators had been sent to the stricken ship in response to Gosingan's request to PNP Director General Hermogenes Ebdane.

"We are always ready to assist them in the investigation," Goltiao said, but clarified that the PCG and the Board of Marine Inquiry were the lead agencies in the investigation.

Commander Geronimo Malabanan, Navy spokesperson, said naval ships were on patrol at the disaster site in search of other survivors.

The Air Force has also joined the search.

Exhaustive inspection

In Lucena City, Sen. Aquilino Pimentel Jr. blamed the government for the latest sea tragedy.

"It's not so much a law that is needed to protect maritime travelers. Exhaustive inspection of the seaworthiness of the vessel—that is all that is needed to prevent sea tragedies," the opposition senator said before boarding a helicopter that would fly him and his fellow candidates to Lopez, Quezon, the next leg of the Koalisyon ng Nagkakaisang Pilipino campaign.

Pimentel pointed out that the SuperFerry 14 tragedy was not the first to happen in the country.

He urged concerned government agencies to act, investigate and correct wrong practices.

"As of today, we have many government agencies that are tasked to deal with this matter to avoid this kind of tragedy. But negligence has led to the unnecessary loss of many innocent lives," Pimentel said. *With reports from Juliet Labog-Javellana and Alcuin Papa in Manila; Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau; AP*

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JOAN BONDOC

THAT far away look and weeping survivors consoling each other are familiar sights at the Coast Guard compound on Roxas Blvd. where they wait for word on the missing.

She saved 3 students, but not her own daughter

By Luige del Puerto

SHE WAS able to shepherd three of her students off the burning SuperFerry 14, but not her daughter.

And Neneth Talasan, adviser of the school paper Small Voices and mother of 16-year-old Vauhgn Montague Talasan, is inconsolable.

Vauhgn is among the 15 students and teachers from Misamis Oriental and Iligan City who remained missing at press time. They were on their way home from Sta. Cruz, Laguna, where they took part in the National Secondary Schools' Press Conference, an annual competition of students in sports, news and feature writing.

The students, mostly juniors and seniors, were among the *crème de la crème* of Mindanao. Most of them were vying for honors.

Neneth spoke with the INQUIRER yesterday at the Lotus Hotel in Manila, where she is staying along with scores of other teachers and students.

"We came here to write news. Who would have guessed we would be in it?" she said.

Aboard SuperFerry 14, Neneth stayed in the Orange section and Vauhgn in the tourist section a few meters away.

This was how she recounted the last time she saw her child, which was before they all went to bed Thursday night:

From the tourist section, Vauhgn came to her and joked: "Mom, it's just one day of being a tourist."

"OK," Neneth said. "But you must leave your things with me."

Awakened by the commotion at around 12:50 a.m. Friday, Neneth immediately looked for her three students—Carmela Barton, Cyrill Quijano and Celeste Habagat.

But when she went for Vauhgn, thick smoke met her at the entrance to the tourist section, forcing her to retreat.

"There was so much smoke," she said. "I couldn't breathe. We had to turn back and run for safety."

Coast Guard ships plucked Neneth and the others from the sea two hours later.

Harvest of awards

When 265 students, advisers and education officials left the port of Cagayan de Oro for Manila on Feb. 18, they had high hopes of pinning down a medal or two.

And they competed well, winning five group awards and eight individual awards.

Neneth, of Manticao, Misamis Oriental, herself received a trophy for Small Voices, which won the Best School Paper of the Philippines Award. But it means little to her now.

The coveted trophy will in fact never be displayed in school. In the confusion of that fateful morning, no one was able to save the trophies.

Lucita Santillan, head of the Misamis Oriental delegation, said Neneth's husband had asked Neneth why she was able to save her students but not her own daughter.

Asked when she planned to go home, Santillan, 59, started weeping.

"I don't have answers for the families of those still missing," she said. "How can I go home? What will I tell them? How will I face them?"

"I'm staying here," she added. "I have an open [plane] ticket. I must stay until I have answers."

Other officials of the delegation broke into tears at the thought of coming home without their best students.

"We will wait for them, we will wait for them," said Manuelito Rojas, the delegation's journalism coordinator.

In Laguna

About 6,000 students and teachers from 17 regions nationwide came to Laguna for the competition that took place at the San Luis Sports Complex in the capital town of Sta. Cruz.

The delegates were housed in various school buildings in nearby towns. Schools in Bay town hosted the delegates from Region 10 (Northern Mindanao).

Felicitas Coniconde, schools supervisor of the district of Bay, confirmed that 15 of the students and teachers who stayed in the town's school buildings for the Feb. 23-24 conference had yet to be accounted for.

Roberto Arevalo, assistant schools division superintendent of Laguna, told the INQUIRER earlier that some 200 students and teachers from the cities of Cagayan de Oro, Gingoog and Iligan, Camiguin and Lanao del Norte who had stayed at Bay school buildings were to have sailed on the ill-fated ship.

Arevalo said some 110 delegates from the Visayas were to have returned home by boat Friday. But he said they were advised by school authorities to instead avail themselves of the Department of Education's offer to finance their return trip by plane.

He said those still staying in their respective host schools could take up this offer of free plane tickets.

Arevalo said the DepEd in Laguna rented a bus yesterday morning and transported the remaining Region 10 delegates to the Manila airport. He said the Bay school district office paid for their tickets.

Tired, angry

In Bacolod City, tired and angry relatives of 11 Negrenses on board SuperFerry 14 were still waiting for word on their loved ones.

The relatives, who had spent practically the last 24 hours at the WG&A office, complained that until past noon yesterday, the list of survivors posted was the same one posted at 7 p.m. on Friday.

"We want to know if our relatives are alive and where they have been taken," they said.

They also asked that the lone casualty be identified.

According to the list provided by relatives, the Negrense passengers still missing were Elizabeth Despe, Gemma Pandis, Elisa Escare, Eugene Susana, Manuel Javelosa Jr., Herminio Claridad, Alfredo Estrella, Ma. Theresa Dionson, Alphy Casildo, Juan Bermudez and Gabriel Aguirre.

Most of them were passengers in the tourist section.

No word

Delia Estrella of Sagay City said she was getting frantic because there was still no word on her husband Alfredo, 48.

Alfredo had worked as a mechanic in Qatar and came home last November. He left for Manila last week to visit a brother.

Elsa Villaranda of Murcia, Negros Occidental, said her nephew Susana, 29, had gone to Manila for an office meeting and had purchased a ticket for the ship's tourist section.

Cherry Claridad said her husband Herminio, 33, a seaman, was in between assignments and was coming home after a training session in Manila.

"I want some assurance that he is alive," she said. "They have not given us any update on the list of survivors."

Dionson, 30, is pregnant. Accompanied by Casildo, 24, she had gone to Manila to send off her seaman-husband. Both women are from Pulupandan town.

Javelosa is also from Pulupandan.

Aguirre, 58, was on the way to Negros to visit an ailing brother, according to his nephew Enrico Benjamin.

Bermudez, 23, was on his way home after failing to find a job in Manila, his sister Myrna Bermudez said.

Pandis, 27, and her friend Escare, on vacation from work at a garments factory in Manila, were heading home to Himamaylan City.

Despe, 43, was coming home from Kuwait for a week, according to her sister Pacita Sante of Murcia. *With reports from Romulo O. Ponte, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau; Carla P. Gomez, PDI Visayas Bureau*

Bribery not public works exec's 'sin'

By Armand N. Nocum

DISMISSED Public Works Undersecretary Salvador Pleyto has denied reports he was fired for bribing two officials in the Office of the Ombudsman into clearing him of graft charges filed under the government's lifestyle check program.

In a letter to the INQUIRER, Pleyto also scored the Presidential Anti-Graft Commission for trying to pass the buck to the Ombudsman's office for his dismissal.

"The PAGC made it appear that Pleyto was dismissed due to the bribery attempt obviously to score instant *pogi* points at the expense of Pleyto, Ombudsman officials and justice," Pleyto's lawyer Lowell L. Lu said in the letter.

"This may have been done to diffuse public criticism over its [PAGC's] failure to live up to its existence as an effective anti-graft body," said Pleyto, as he described as "disproportionate" the penalty of dismissal over his failure to list the business interests of his wife in his statements of assets and liabilities .

A press statement reportedly released by Malacañang on Feb. 3 quoted the PAGC as saying Pleyto was dismissed for "giving millions of pesos in bribes to two officials in the Ombudsman's office to secure a clearance in the lifestyle check."

When confronted with the statement, PAGC Chair Dario Rama admitted its contents were correct, but he denied drafting the document.

He said that although there was a complaint for bribery against Pleyto, the charges were never proved.

"Pleyto was never formally charged with bribery or with having an illicit affair with a woman," said Lu. "Pleyto was not dismissed by the (PAGC) for attempting to bribe Ombudsman officials."

He said that Pleyto was dismissed "for mere failure to state in his SALs for 1999, 2000 and 2001 the business interests of his wife as required under RA 6713."

Australia fights efforts to free Tan assets

By Philip C. Tubeza

AUSTRALIA is helping the Philippines fight fugitive businessman Dante Tan's efforts to unfreeze his bank accounts in that country, Acting Justice Secretary Ma. Merceditas Gutierrez said yesterday.

Gutierrez said at a press conference that Tan's lawyers had asked the Australian courts to unfreeze their client's bank accounts, estimated to hold almost US$500,000, that had been frozen in September.

She said the Department of Justice has been coordinating with Australian government lawyers to prevent that from happening.

Canberra froze Tan's assets after the Philippine government filed a request, as it hunted the fugitive Chinese-Filipino businessman who is facing stock manipulation charges back home.

Tan had been a crony of deposed President Joseph Estrada, whose ouster was sparked in part by his alleged involvement in schemes cooked up by the businessman.

Senate President Franklin Drilon had asked members of Australia's parliament to help freeze Tan's assets, particularly the amount of US$471,000 deposited in the Commonwealth Bank of Sydney.

The Department of Foreign Affairs canceled Tan's passport but he is believed to have two others–an Australian and a Chinese one.

Tan is believed to be in China and using his Chinese name Shao-ghi Chen, but this could not be confirmed by justice officials.

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Hongkong, China, Vietnam		$ 458
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2nd to 51st Placers* - Outlay of ₱113,000 for each of fifty (50) scholars to cover tuition and other basic miscellaneous fees throughout the Accountancy program at TIP Manila......₱5,650,000.00

52nd to 131st Placers** - Outlay of ₱12,250 for each of eighty (80) scholars to cover tuition and other basic miscellaneous fees for ONE (1) semester in Accountancy at TIP Manila....₱980,000.00

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PRES. ELPIDIO QUIRINO	Friday, April 16, 2004	Saturday, April 17, 2004
GOV. DEMETRIO QUIRINO, SR.	Friday, April 23, 2004	Saturday, April 24, 2004
SEC. GUILLERMO DE VEGA	Thursday, April 29, 2004	Friday, April 30, 2004

TIME OF EXAMINATIONS 9:00 - 11:00 AM

PLACE OF EXAMINATIONS TIP Manila and TIP Quezon City

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2.1	90% or above	Free Tuition and Basic Miscellaneous Fees	1 Semester
2.2	85% - 89%	Free Tuition Fee	1 Semester
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The WORLD

Editor **Luverne B. Gueco**

ANARCHY GRIPS PORT-AU-PRINCE

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On Wednesday, Li Weiyi, spokesperson for China's policy-making Taiwan Affairs Office, said it would be wrong to use the 1947 uprising to stir up confrontation between native Taiwanese and mainland immigrants or create tension across the Taiwan Strait.

"The DPP wants to reinforce the idea of Taiwan as an independent country against China," said Chao Chien-min, a political science professor at the National Chengchi University, referring to Chen's Democratic Progressive Party.

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US priests abused over 10,000 minors in the last 50 years

WASHINGTON—US Roman Catholic priests reportedly molested more than 10,000 children over the past 50 years, according to two studies released Friday documenting the scope of the sex abuse scandal that has rocked the American branch of the church.

The church-commissioned studies reported that 4,400 priests—about four percent of men in holy orders between 1950 and 2002—preyed on mostly young boys, sometimes after plying them with drugs and alcohol.

The offenses typically occurred in the priest's home or in the church, and involved boys aged 11 to 14, according to the study by John Jay College of Criminal Justice at the City University of New York, which relied on self-reporting by the dioceses.

Most of the alleged offenses dated to the 1960s and 1970s, and 80 percent of them were homosexual in nature.

A separate study looking at the "causes and context" of the scandal which came to a head in 2002 said the church was not vigorous enough in screening candidates for holy orders, and that many were ill-prepared to abide by their vows of chastity.

"Firstly dioceses and orders simply did not screen candidates for the priesthood properly," said Robert Bennett, a member of the lay panel, the National Review Board, that carried out the study.

"As a result we found many dysfunctional and pyschosexually immature men were admitted into seminaries and later ordained into the priesthood."

In its report, the panel of judges, lawyers and professionals, was also sharply critical of the church hierarchy for trying to cover up what it called "this epidemic of abuse." *AP*

UN deploys peacekeepers to Ivory Coast

UNITED NATIONS—The UN Security Council unanimously approved the deployment of more than 6,000 UN peacekeepers to Ivory Coast Friday and demanded that the government and rebels meet all requirements of a peace deal so presidential elections can be held next year.

China's UN Ambassador Wang Guangya, the current council president, set the vote after the US Congress gave its approval for the force.

The United States will not contribute any troops, but the congressional approval was required because Washington pays 27 percent of UN peacekeeping costs.

UN Secretary General Kofi Annan commended the council for approving the resolution and said it will send "a clear message that the international community supports the Ivorian peace process and is determined to play its role in the maintenance of peace and security in Africa."

"A strengthened United Nations presence in Ivory Coast will... help the country prepare for the holding of fair and transparent general elections in 2005," he said. *AP*

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US priests abused over 10,000 minors in the last 50 years

WASHINGTON—US Roman Catholic priests reportedly molested more than 10,000 children over the past 50 years, according to two studies released Friday documenting the scope of the sex abuse scandal that has rocked the American branch of the church.

The church-commissioned studies reported that 4,400 priests—about four percent of men in holy orders between 1950 and 2002—preyed on mostly young boys, sometimes after plying them with drugs and alcohol.

The offenses typically occurred in the priest's home or in the church, and involved boys aged 11 to 14, according to the study by John Jay College of Criminal Justice at the City University of New York, which relied on self-reporting by the dioceses.

Most of the alleged offenses dated to the 1960s and 1970s, and 80 percent of them were homosexual in nature.

A separate study looking at the "causes and context" of the scandal which came to a head in 2002 said the church was not vigorous enough in screening candidates for holy orders, and that many were ill-prepared to abide by their vows of chastity.

"Firstly dioceses and orders simply did not screen candidates for the priesthood properly," said Robert Bennett, a member of the lay panel, the National Review Board, that carried out the study.

"As a result we found many dysfunctional and pyschosexually immature men were admitted into seminaries and later ordained into the priesthood."

In its report, the panel of judges, lawyers and professionals, was also sharply critical of the church hierarchy for trying to cover up what it called "this epidemic of abuse." *AP*

UN deploys peacekeepers to Ivory Coast

UNITED NATIONS—The UN Security Council unanimously approved the deployment of more than 6,000 UN peacekeepers to Ivory Coast Friday and demanded that the government and rebels meet all requirements of a peace deal so presidential elections can be held next year.

China's UN Ambassador Wang Guangya, the current council president, set the vote after the US Congress gave its approval for the force.

The United States will not contribute any troops, but the congressional approval was required because Washington pays 27 percent of UN peacekeeping costs.

UN Secretary General Kofi Annan commended the council for approving the resolution and said it will send "a clear message that the international community supports the Ivorian peace process and is determined to play its role in the maintenance of peace and security in Africa."

"A strengthened United Nations presence in Ivory Coast will... help the country prepare for the holding of fair and transparent general elections in 2005," he said. *AP*

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Talks on North Korean nuclear crisis bog down

BEIJINg—Six-way talks on the North Korean nuclear crisis were bogged down by "differences, difficulties and contradictions," but host China held out hopes on Friday for a joint statement to help end the 16-month-old stalemate.

Late on third day of discussions in Beijing, senior negotiators from China, the United States, the two Koreas, Japan and Russia struggled to hammer out the wording of the statement and agree on when another round of talks should be held.

North Korea again accused the United States of hindering progress by pressing the same demands it had at a first round of talks in August, and a North Korean Embassy official said it had tried to show flexibility and sincerity.

The United States and Japan rejected a draft prepared by China because it did not contain a line on a "complete, verifiable and irreversible" end to North Korea's nuclear programs, diplomatic sources said.

"Precisely because there are some differences, difficulties and contradictions, it is necessary to continue with the talks process," a Chinese foreign ministry statement quoted delegation head Wang Yi as saying.

Japanese and South Korean diplomats said the talks would close Feb. 28 at 11 a.m., with the Japanese diplomat adding that the six parties would try to produce a joint statement.

South Korea's Yonhap news agency, quoting media sources, said a draft statement would be presented Saturday morning.

It includes a tentative agreement among the parties to establish "a working group" of officials to negotiate an end to the nuclear crisis and supply energy aid to North Korea, it said.

A senior official involved in the talks, while declining to comment on the content of the draft statement, said that it would be reported to the capitals overnight and may be adopted in the Saturday morning session.

Host China also said there was hope for a final document.

"Right now, the parties are in the process of carrying out intensive consultations on a document, so the hope still exists," foreign ministry spokesperson Liu Jianchao said.

"If there is not a document, we should not say the talks were a failure."

But Liu added that the gap between the different sides was being "narrowed gradually" although differences still existed.

South Korean Deputy Foreign Minister Lee Soo-hyuck told reporters that deputy delegation chiefs were working to find a "common denominator on fundamental questions. You can say that it is a difficult process," he said.

There was no sign the North admitted having a uranium enrichment program that is the crux of the crisis.

North Korea has a plutonium program centered on a small reactor at Yongbyon. But the United States says the North is also carrying out uranium enrichment and US officials have said they presented evidence of the covert program to North Korea in October 2002.

US officials said at the time the North had admitted the program existed. The North has since denied any knowledge of it.

The US delegation in Beijing did not show any evidence to prove North Korea had a highly enriched uranium program, a Japanese official taking part in the talks said.

Several of the parties at the talks have voiced skepticism about the US assertion and there had been speculation the United States might present some intelligence on the suspected uranium program in Beijing.

The six sides also exchanged views on setting up working groups to push for a resolution of the crisis, a step that could formalize the six-way talks process.

In an apparent breakthrough on Thursday, a North Korean proposal to freeze its nuclear weapons program was met by a South Korean, Chinese and Russian-backed plan to offer energy aid in exchange to the impoverished state.

Reuters

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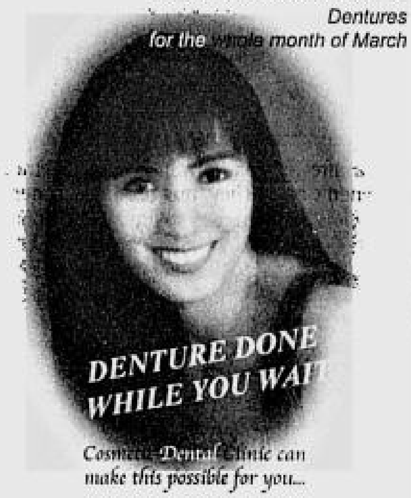
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Tighter controls on terror charities urged

PARIS—Governments should consider tighter controls on religious groups and charities to stop them from being used to fund terrorists, a global task force on money laundering said.

At the end of a three-day meeting in Paris, the Financial Action Task Force called on its 31 member countries Friday to reexamine the way they regulate the nonprofit sector—including the sensitive area of faith-based groups.

Delegates reviewed case studies compiled by FATF experts, showing that charities were still being used to fund extremists more than two years after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks on the United States prompted the first calls for a crackdown.

A report adopted at the meeting said there was now a "consensus among those experts" that additional measures were needed to cover nonprofit organizations, or NPOs.

Governments are "unable to monitor" religious organizations in countries where they enjoy a special legal or constitutional status, the report said, while groups that have not registered for tax-exempt status are also shielded from scrutiny in some states.

"There is thus a need to examine how vulnerable these parts of the NPO sector are to terrorist financing," it concluded, calling for "alternative solutions to guarantee transparency and access when necessary to competent authorities."

The report stopped short of naming states where protection accorded to religious organizations can hamper the detection or investigation of financial crime.

However, the United States and France are among countries where the constitutional separation of church and state limits the authorities' powers over places of worship and religious groups.

Both are members of the FATF, along with most other industrialized countries.

One of the task force's case studies concerns a registered charity ostensibly involved in child welfare which circulated videos of religious militants in combat, interspersed with images of atrocities perpetrated against members of the same religion. It appealed for donations to be sent to a post office box linked to known extremists.

In another example, authorities dismantled dozens of interrelated charities with ties to a particular immigrant community—but only after they transferred $160 million to a company featured on a United Nations terrorism blacklist and other overseas beneficiaries.

The report does not name any of the individuals, groups, companies or countries involved in the cases it highlights.

In October 2001, when the FATF first published recommendations on tackling the abuse of nonprofit organizations, it accepted that "jurisdictions may be restricted in their ability to regulate religious activity."

That attitude now appears to be changing.

"The bottom line is that the vast majority of people who give to charities want their money to wind up in the hands of the needy," said Daniel Glaser, the senior US treasury department official who heads Washington's delegation on the task force.

"The fact that there are religious sensitivities involved shouldn't prevent us from taking action," Glaser said, "but it is relevant to the consideration of what sort of controls you place on these entities."

The FATF outlined its ongoing work to improve checks on wire transfers—a way of moving money often favored by terrorist groups—and to clamp down on the use of insurance products to launder money.

It also announced that Ukraine and Egypt had been removed from the dwindling list of states dubbed "Non-Cooperative Countries and Territories" for their failure to implement international standards designed to prevent money laundering.

The list now comprises the Cook Islands, Guatemala, Indonesia, Burma, Nauru, Nigeria and the Philippines. *AP*

HOLDING THEIR GROUND
Three Venezuelan opposition members hold their arm
Guard during riots in Caracas, Venezuela, on Friday.

Blix suspects US c

LONDON—Former UN chief weapons inspector Hans Blix said Saturday he suspected both his UN office and his New York home were bugged by the United States in the run-up to the Iraq war.

Blix told the Guardian newspaper he expected to be spied on by the Iraqis, but to be bugged by the US he described as "disgusting."

Blix said his worst spy fears were realized when he was shown a set of photographs by a senior member of the Bush administration which could only have been obtained through underhand means.

"It feels like an intrusion into your integrity in a situation when you are actually on the same side," he told the Guardian, speaking from his home in Stockholm.

His claims will pour further fat on the fire following claims by a former British Cabinet minister
that Britain spied o
tary General Kofi A
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WORLDBRIEFS

Neighbor sued for loud sex

BERLIN—A German woman took her male neighbor to court for noise pollution after he repeatedly kept her awake throug half the night and had at least one four-hour sex session, a court spokesperson said Friday. "Four hours of sex noises What was I supposed to think? It was nothing but groaning and banging," the woman told the judge, a Bild newspaper report said. The woman told Berlin magistrates that her 25-year old neighbor Andreas G. was disturbing the peace by keeping her awake early in the morning. Andreas said his 26-year-old neighbor had complained in the past, calling at 5 in the afternoon, but that he had not felt obliged to respond. "I can have as much sex as loud as I want then," he said. The judge dropped the case on learning that the man had since moved out of the apartment. *Reuter*

Employees fired thru text

SEOUL—South Korea's third largest credit card issuer fired a quarter of its workforce via mobile phone text messages on Fri day, after negotiations with striking unionized workers broke down. KEB Credit Service Co sacked 161 employees, a spokesperson for the company's parent bank said. "The layoff date is Feb. 28," the message said, according to a member of the union. "We will receive applications for voluntary retireme package until Feb. 28." The firm said it had no method for contacting striking staff other than using the short message service. Unionized workers, who make up nearly 90 percent of the firm's 662 staff, have been on strike since mid-December over takeover by Korea Exchange Bank, fearing job cuts. *Reuter*

Politician repeats Columbus erro

OTTAWA—A contender for the leadership of Canada's opposi tion Conservative Party was unflatteringly compared with Christopher Columbus this week and reminded that aborigina Indians and people from India are different. The politician, Stephen Harper, had to apologize after his office sent a letter t a native group, the Ontario Federation of Indian Friendship Centers, congratulating it on a holiday celebrating India's independence from Britain. Wrong Indians. And the mistake prompted a stinging rebuke from federation president Rick Lobzun, who said Harper's letter, sent in January, recalled Columbus's error of mistaking America for India. "This is 2004, Mr. Harper, not 1492... the last time a man got lost look ing for India," Lobzun said. Harper's spokesperson, Carolyn Stewart-Olsen, said his office had used student interns to compile a database of Indo-Canadian and other groups as par of an outreach program and had got this one wrong. *Reuter*

Soccer fans to be tested for alcoho

LISBON—Fans at the Euro 2004 soccer championship will be tested for drunkenness and those over a certain blood alcohol limit barred from games, Portuguese authorities said on Friday Fans who show a blood alcohol level of 1.2 grams per liter will be turned away from stadiums, said Lt. Gen. Leonel de Carvalho, head of a government security committee for the 16-team tournament in June. "The test won't be made on everybody, bu in exceptional circumstances," he told a news conference after meeting with UEFA organizers on security. Portugal's legal blood alcohol limit for motorists is 0.5 grams per liter. A level o 1.2 grams per liter is considered a crime. Carvalho said tests would be made at stadium gates with equipment similar to that used to check drivers' sobriety. *Reuter*

Bush contest yields no winner

NEW YORK—A $10,000 reward offered by the "Doonesbury" comic strip for proof that President Bush served in the Alabama National Guard during the Vietnam War has elicited over 1,800 responses but turned up no credible evidence yet, the cartoonist said on Friday. With so much controversy surrounding Bush's National Guard service, a credible witness would have turned up by now if there was one, said Garry Trudeau. "You can be sure some very motivated people have tried to find a wit ness who can establish Bush's presence at Dannelly Base beyond a reasonable doubt," said the creator of the politically irreverent and satirical daily cartoon. "Anyone who could do so would almost certainly have surfaced by now." "Doonesbury" first posted the award on Monday. *Reuter*

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That attitude now appears to be changing.

"The bottom line is that the vast majority of people who give to charities want their money to wind up in the hands of the needy," said Daniel Glaser, the senior US treasury department official who heads Washington's delegation on the task force.

"The fact that there are religious sensitivities involved shouldn't prevent us from taking action," Glaser said, "but it is relevant to the consideration of what sort of controls you place on these entities."

The FATF outlined its ongoing work to improve checks on wire transfers—a way of moving money often favored by terrorist groups—and to clamp down on the use of insurance products to launder money.

It also announced that Ukraine and Egypt had been removed from the dwindling list of states dubbed "Non-Cooperative Countries and Territories" for their failure to implement international standards designed to prevent money laundering.

The list now comprises the Cook Islands, Guatemala, Indonesia, Burma, Nauru, Nigeria and the Philippines. *AP*

HOLDING THEIR GROUND

Three Venezuelan opposition members hold their arr
Guard during riots in Caracas, Venezuela, on Friday.

Blix suspects US

LONDON—Former UN chief weapons inspector Hans Blix said Saturday he suspected both his UN office and his New York home were bugged by the United States in the run-up to the Iraq war.

Blix told the Guardian newspaper he expected to be spied on by the Iraqis, but to be bugged by the US he described as "disgusting."

Blix said his worst spy fears were realized when he was shown a set of photographs by a senior member of the Bush administration which could only have been obtained through underhand means.

"It feels like an intrusion into your integrity in a situation when you are actually on the same side," he told the Guardian, speaking from his home in Stockholm.

His claims will pour further fat on the fire following claims by a former British Cabinet minister
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WORLDBRIEFS

Neighbor sued for loud sex

BERLIN—A German woman took her male neighbor to
for noise pollution after he repeatedly kept her awake th
half the night and had at least one four-hour sex sessio
court spokesperson said Friday. "Four hours of sex noi
What was I supposed to think? It was nothing but groa
and banging," the woman told the judge, a Bild newspa
port said. The woman told Berlin magistrates that her 2
old neighbor Andreas G. was disturbing the peace by k
her awake early in the morning. Andreas said his 26-ye
neighbor had complained in the past, calling at 5 in the
noon, but that he had not felt obliged to respond. "I car
as much sex as loud as I want then," he said. The judge
dropped the case on learning that the man had since m
out of the apartment. *Reu*

Employees fired thru text

SEOUL—South Korea's third largest credit card issuer f
quarter of its workforce via mobile phone text messages
day, after negotiations with striking unionized workers b
down. KEB Credit Service Co sacked 161 employees, a
spokesperson for the company's parent bank said. "The
date is Feb. 28," the message said, according to a mem
the union. "We will receive applications for voluntary re
package until Feb. 28." The firm said it had no method t
tacting striking staff other than using the short message
vice. Unionized workers, who make up nearly 90 percen
firm's 662 staff, have been on strike since mid-Decemb
takeover by Korea Exchange Bank, fearing job cuts. *Reuter*

Politician repeats Columbus e

OTTAWA—A contender for the leadership of Canada's
tion Conservative Party was unflatteringly compared w
Christopher Columbus this week and reminded that ab
Indians and people from India are different. The politic
Stephen Harper, had to apologize after his office sent a
a native group, the Ontario Federation of Indian Friend
Centers, congratulating it on a holiday celebrating Indi
pendence from Britain. Wrong Indians. And the mistal
prompted a stinging rebuke from federation president
Lobzun, who said Harper's letter, sent in January, reca
Columbus's error of mistaking America for India. "Thi
2004, Mr. Harper, not 1492... the last time a man got l
ing for India," Lobzun said. Harper's spokesperson, C
Stewart-Olsen, said his office had used student intern
compile a database of Indo-Canadian and other group
of an outreach program and had got this one wrong. *Reuter*

Soccer fans to be tested for alc

LISBON—Fans at the Euro 2004 soccer championship will be
tested for drunkenness and those over a certain blood alcoh
limit barred from games, Portuguese authorities said on Frida
Fans who show a blood alcohol level of 1.2 grams per liter will
be turned away from stadiums, said Lt. Gen. Leonel de Carval
ho, head of a government security committee for the 16-team
tournament in June. "The test won't be made on everybody, b
in exceptional circumstances," he told a news conference after
meeting with UEFA organizers on security. Portugal's legal
blood alcohol limit for motorists is 0.5 grams per liter. A level
1.2 grams per liter is considered a crime. Carvalho said tests
would be made at stadium gates with equipment similar to tha
used to check drivers' sobriety. *Reuter*

Bush contest yields no winner

NEW YORK—A $10,000 reward offered by the "Doonesbury
comic strip for proof that President Bush served in the Alaba
National Guard during the Vietnam War has elicited over 1,30
responses but turned up no credible evidence yet, the cartoon
ist said on Friday. With so much controversy surrounding
Bush's National Guard service, a credible witness would have
turned up by now if there was one, said Garry Trudeau. "You
can be sure some very motivated people have tried to find a w
ness who can establish Bush's presence at Dannelly Base be
yond a reasonable doubt," said the creator of the politically ir
reverent and satirical daily cartoon. "Anyone who could do so
would almost certainly have surfaced by now." "Doonesbury
first posted the award on Monday. *Reuter*

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AP

Macedonia mourns president's death

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The committee will decide if a new president must take office within that tight deadline, or whether the constitution merely requires an election date to be set, the official said.

The US Ambassador to Macedonia, Richard Butler, expressed hope that the vote would be "free and democratic." The speaker of Macedonia's parliament, Ljupco Jordanovski, was been named interim acting president.

Trajkovski was en route to an international conference in Bosnia on Thursday when his twin-engine turboprop plane crashed in heavy fog, about 80 km south of Sarajevo. Search teams struggled with bad weather and land mines left over from the Bosnian war to locate the wreck and recover the bodies.

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Meanwhile, the fledgling nation mourned the death the 47-year-old moderate leader credited with helping defuse an ethnic Albanian insurgency in 2001.

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AFP

US backtracks on land mine prohibition

WASHINGTON—The United States on Friday abandoned a sweeping land mine prohibition envisioned by the Clinton administration in a move that angered humanitarian groups.

The new policy allows the use of sophisticated, or "smart," land mines that can be automatically defused within days, marking a retreat from the pledge to ban all land mines by 2006 if the Pentagon was able to develop alternatives.

It would ban after 2010 "dumb" mines that cannot self-destruct and pose a risk long after battlefields return to peaceful use.

The United States, which has refused to sign on to a global land mine treaty, has long been criticized for its mine policies and Friday's announcement brought a sharp response.

"This new land mine policy is not just a gigantic step backward for the United States, it is a complete about-face," said Stephen Goose, executive director of the arms division of Human Rights Watch.

The charity Land Mine Action added: "While 141 countries around the world—including all other Nato countries—have now banned land mines, the US is choosing to continue to use this outmoded and indiscriminate weapon that kills and injures thousands of people every year."

US President George W. Bush's special representative for mine action, Lincoln Bloomfield, announcing the decision at the state department, said it aimed to strike a balance between the need to retain effective weapons and humanitarian concerns.

Mines around the world posed a risk for 60 million civilians and "dumb" mines caused an estimated 10,000 casualties a year, he said.

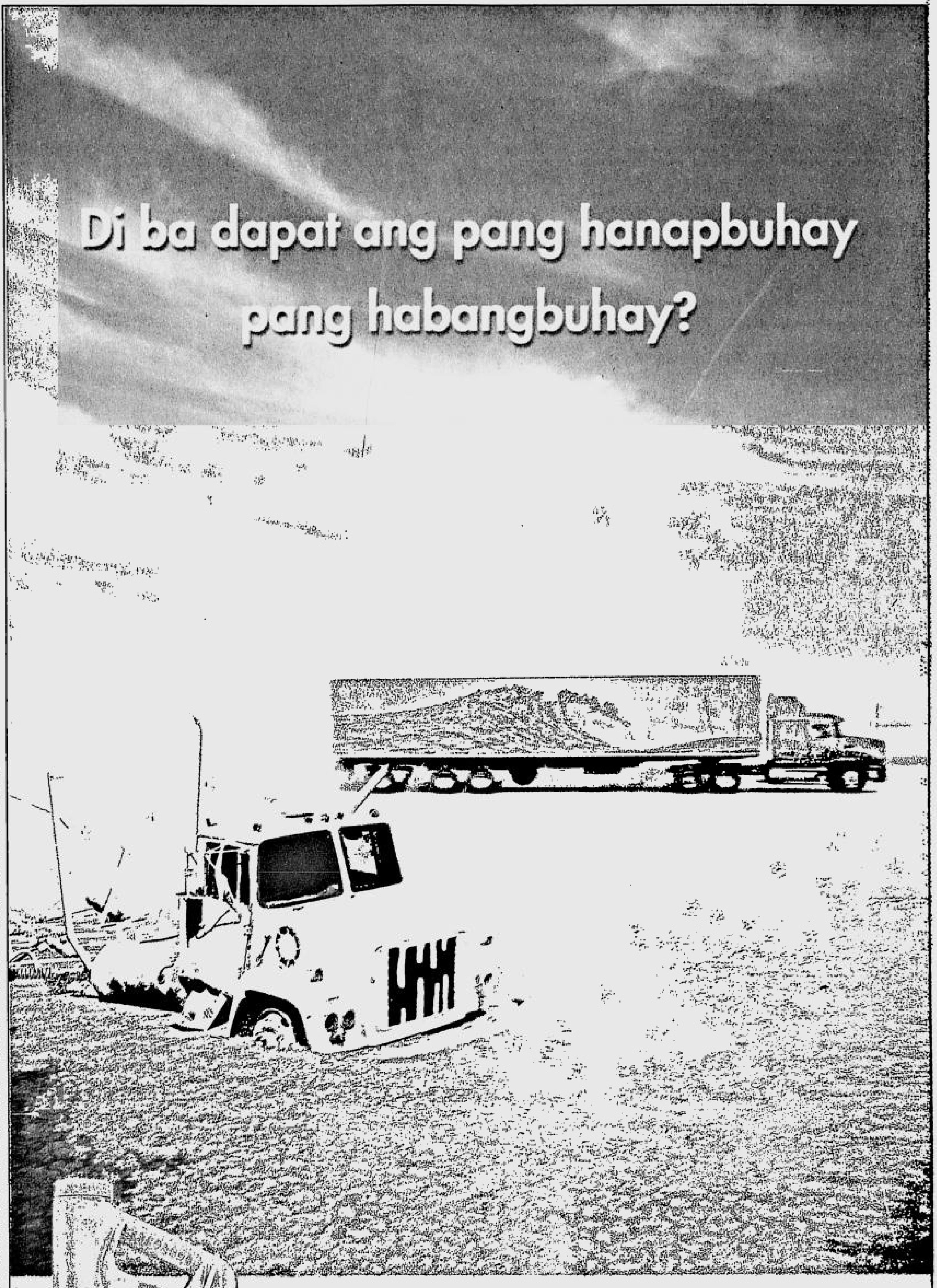
Sen. Patrick Leahy, a Vermont Democrat, called the new policy a "deeply disappointing rollback" and said it would serve to encourage other militaries to continue using mines.

"The world looks to us for leadership on this issue," Leahy said. "When we back away from the progress we have pledged to rid the world of these indiscriminate weapons, others will ask why they, with their much weaker armies, should stop using them."

The Bush plan also proposes a 50 percent increase, up to $70 million, for a state department program that provides land mine removal assistance in more than 40 countries.

The British land mine charity Halo Trust, championed by the late Princess Diana, welcomed that move, saying the pledge of more money to dig up mines was the best way to save lives.

Reuters



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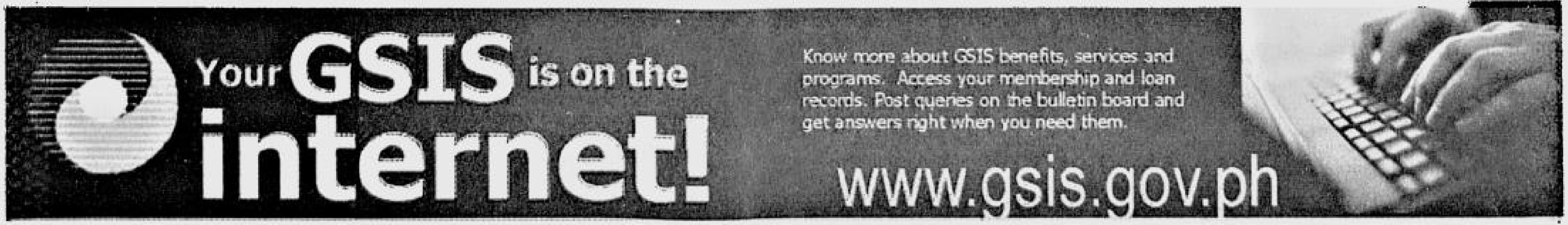

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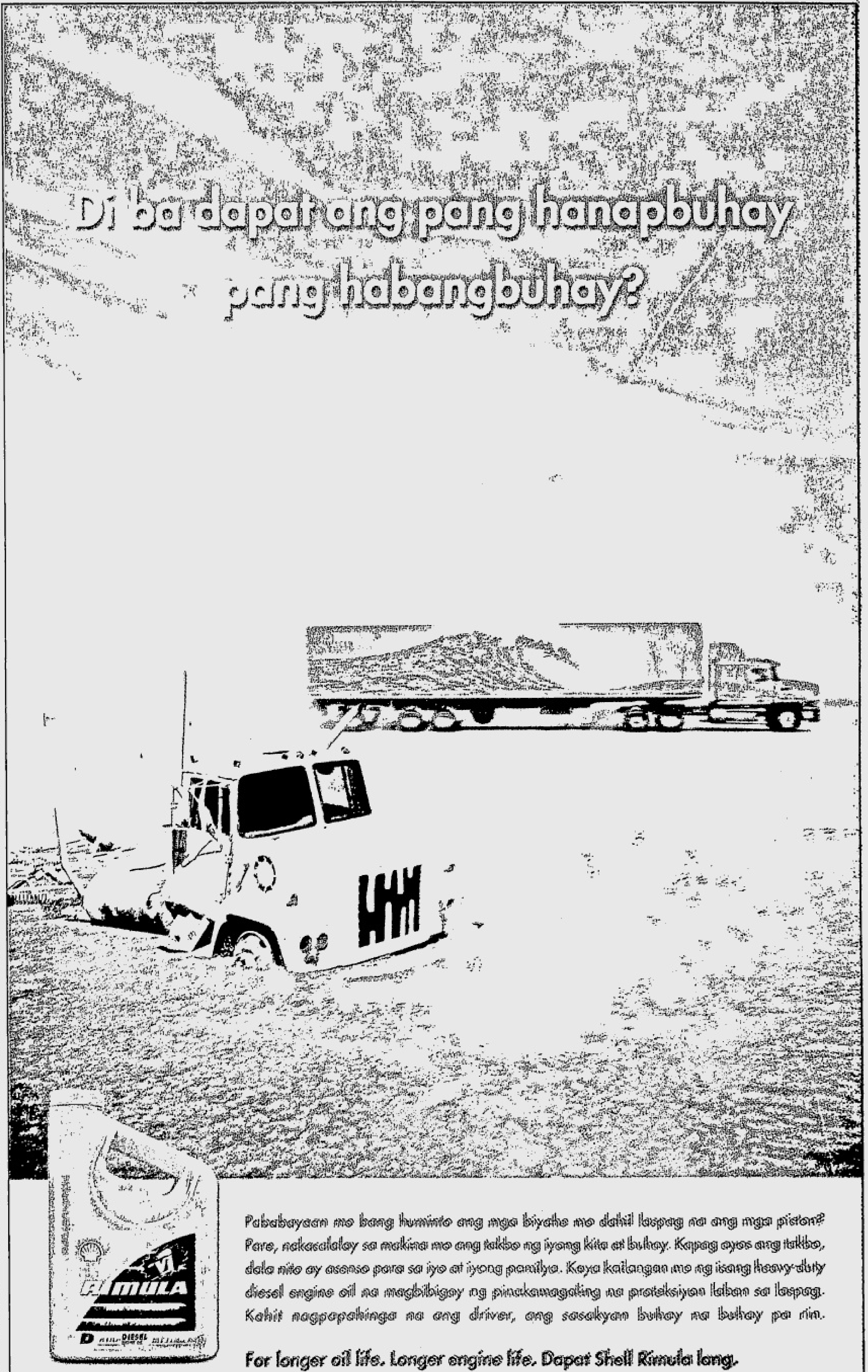

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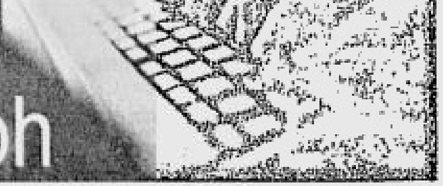

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Carrot and stick

EDITORIAL

THIS much we can say about US Chargé d'Affaires Joseph Mussomeli. He belongs to the Theodore Roosevelt school of plain, even blunt diplomacy. He talks softly but carries a big carrot and an even bigger stick.

Speaking before foreign correspondents on Thursday, he appealed to the Moro Islamic Liberation Front to start formal peace talks with the Philippine government, and soon. If the MILF makes good on its agreement to repair to the negotiating table, he said, the $30 million in Mindanao development aid that US President George W. Bush promised last year would be released.

The money (about P1.7 billion at the current exchange rate) would be used "to help MILF combatants get back into the mainstream of society," Mussomeli said. This is not the first time that the United States has gotten involved, however peripherally, in the peace process. Through the US Agency for International Development, it has provided millions of dollars for programs that eased the return of ex-Moro National Liberation Front rebels to civilian life.

The $30-million carrot, however, has an expiry date. "That money is not going to be there forever. It goes away in the next several months," Mussomeli said.

If the carrot doesn't work, maybe the stick will. Mussomeli also said the US government was evaluating the status of the MILF, to see whether it should be placed on Washington's blacklist of foreign terrorist organizations. "It is an ongoing assessment process. It is an issue that may in the next year or two really reach a conclusion," he said. "Right now we remain hopeful—because of ongoing negotiations, because of their public announcement renouncing terrorism—that they will avoid being placed on the list."

This is not the first time that the United States has blacklisted armed groups from the Philippines. In 2002, the US State Department placed the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army on its FTO list, as well as the Abu Sayyaf. The move, according to the Department of Foreign Affairs, has caused foreign funding for the communist insurgency to dry up.

"If a genuine peace accord is reached... then that would suggest strongly that there is very little reason to put them (the MILF rebels) on the blacklist," Mussomeli said.

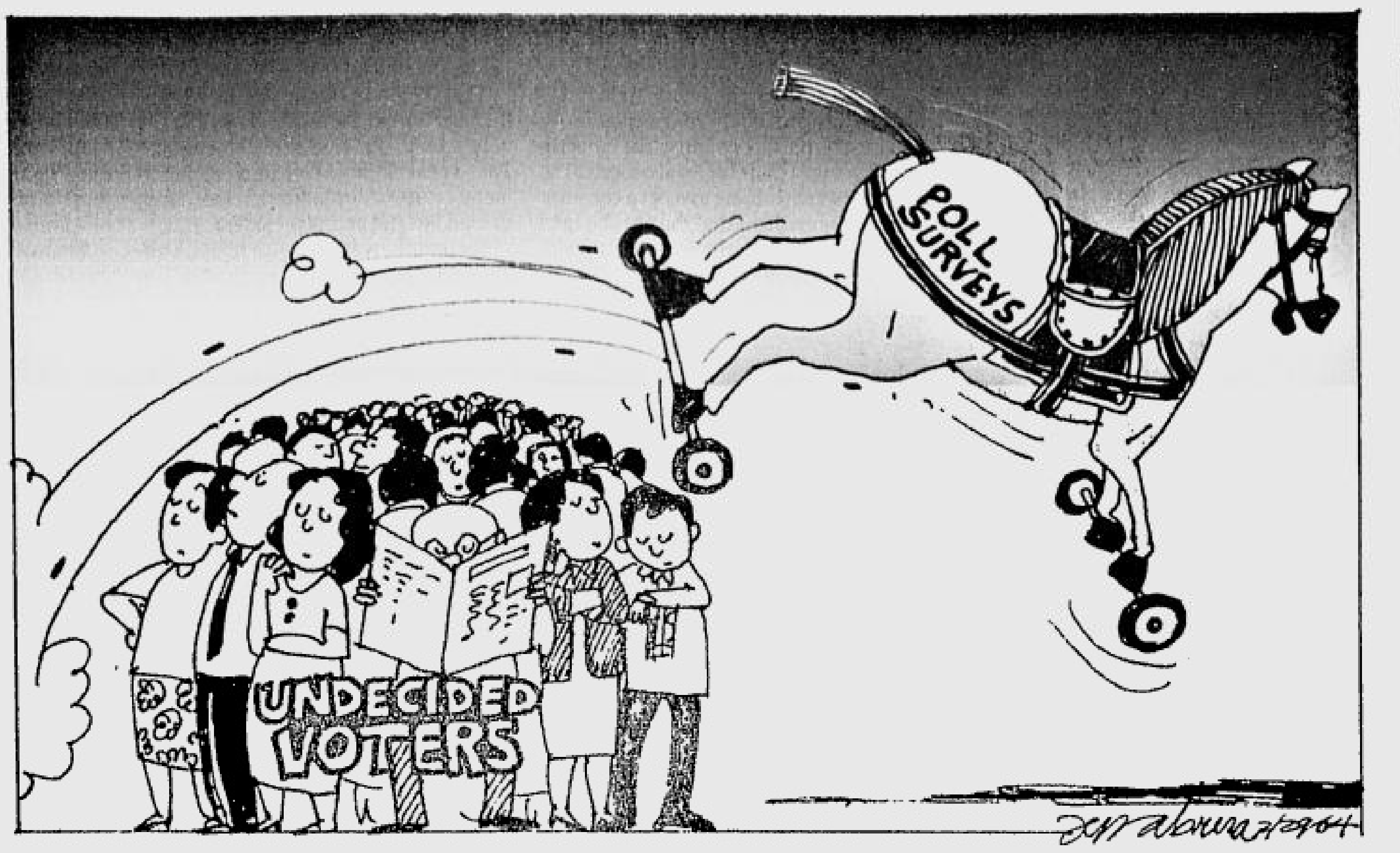
Naturally, the MILF has bristled at the US diplomat's less-than-diplomatic remarks. "The statement of US Embassy Charge d'Affaires Mussomeli is nothing but a manifestation that America wants to interfere in the peace process," rebel spokesperson Eid Kabalu retorted.

"The Americans are directly interfering with the peace talks and luring us with the aid offer, but the freedom of the Bangsamoro people cannot be bought. While we need the aid money for the development of Mindanao, we cannot sacrifice the cause of the Bangsamoro people," Kabalu said.

Then the clincher: Why issue the sign-or-else ultimatum now, Kabalu asked, after the MILF had rejected any peace agreement ahead of the May 10 elections? "There is no way the MILF can sign a peace agreement with the (Macapagal) Arroyo government because there are still a lot of issues to be discussed. Signing a peace deal with the government is next to impossible now, but the peace talks will continue until a just and lasting solution to the Moro problems is achieved," he said.

If Mussomeli buys the administration line that the peace talks can be formally resumed in April and concluded in May, he can expect a bout of buyer's remorse. If, even in the unlikely event that the MILF were inclined to humor the Macapagal administration and agree to a peace treaty before election day, the public would correctly view the conclusion with skepticism, if not outright suspicion. The constituency for peace in Mindanao is a large one, but those who oppose a peace agreement with the Moro rebels are not exactly a negligible minority. Their opposition to a hasty one can only be worse.

But if the United States is stepping up the pressure on the MILF now only to make sure that the rebels will show up at the Kuala Lumpur negotiations in April, then we welcome Mussomeli's remarks. Let us be pragmatic: Anything that moves the peace process along is helpful.



Debate in the slums

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

IT wasn't even a clever dodge, and nobody believed him. Nobody except, of course, his mindless followers who accept everything he says as gospel truth.

The idea behind the holding of a debate among the six presidential candidates is to give the people an opportunity to assess the merits, if any, of the aspirants' respective platforms. Their forensic abilities in explaining them to the electorate shall also be part of their test. Their acceptability shall be appraised by the soundness of their views and their personal and professional qualifications.

The confrontation shall be extemporaneous. The rivals shall face each other without director's cues or prepared scripts. Subject only to previously accepted procedural rules, each contestant shall be on his own once he takes the floor. Every one of the six debaters shall speak without the aid of teleprompters or idiot boards. The lone woman candidate shall not enjoy special privileges except makeup, to be available also to the male stalwarts upon request.

As proposed, the venue shall be a place removed from disorderly reaction or mob rule. The audience shall be subject to the ordinary rules of order and discipline. The moderators chosen by the sponsors and the debaters themselves shall have the authority to prevent the proceedings from deteriorating into an unruly polemical exhibition. The debate shall be a purely academic discussion among civil and supposedly knowledgeable participants.

The basic rules of the contest are acceptable to all the rivals except one. The lone dissenter takes exception to the concept of the debate and its intended audience. He says that, to begin with, the debate is divisive instead of uniting the nation; it is mere talk without action. He also suspects the place where the debate is to be held and the people who will hear it, meaning the intelligent audience.

The basic feature of a debate is disagreement; that is why it is called a debate. The basic purpose of a debate is to test conflicting views on "the anvil of truth" and to choose the best among them as the will of the majority. It is the resolution of the will of the majority, after the original discord, that will unite rather than divide. That is why debates should be encouraged rather than dismissed.

"That, at any rate, is the theory of the Constitution," according to Justice Holmes. "It is an experiment, as all life is an experiment."

A debate is best held in an atmosphere of courteous conflict rather than fanged antagonism. In civilized societies, differences of opinion are discussed in polite conversation, not unreasoning hostilities. In any case, disagreements should be resolved not by what Justice Cardozo called "the hooting throng" but by responsible parties reasoning together.

Fernando Poe Jr. is unfamiliar with the purpose and procedure of the scholarly debate. Probably because of his scant recommendations, he is chary of a public eye-on-eye encounter among the presidential candidates and would rather evade this cerebral contest if he can. To do this, he has laid down the nonnegotiable condition that it be held in the slums. The slums are his usual setting in his movie roles and his expected bulwark as presidential candidate.

The slums would be the perfect place to discuss such familiar subjects as health and drug problems, the romance of Joey Marquez and Kris Aquino, the election of congressional and local candidates, the improvement of public schools, the worsening traffic problem and other parochial concerns. These are matters within the expertise of the residents who will be glad to hear about them any time of the day or night. So, I suppose, will FPJ.

But, without offense, I have serious doubts about their perception of such esoteric matters as the gross national product, the parliamentary system, federalism and the police power, globalization pro and con, alien domination of the national economy, natural-born citizenship and other similar issues. The ordinary slumdweller, and I imagine FPJ as well, will prefer to watch "Meteor Garden" or "Idol Ko si Cap" rather than waste their evening listening to the magnitude of our foreign debt.

Unless—and this is a big Unless—one of the participants in the debate is Da King, to whom they owe their absolute allegiance as his faithful subjects. They must be there to acclaim him, to applaud him every time he opens his mouth, and to protect him whenever he is attacked by his rivals. FPJ probably does not have much to say about those topics, which is why he wants the debate to be heard by his ignorant followers rather than the well-informed voters. To them, the rule simply is, Hail your *bida* and boo the villains. Knowledge of the issues is not important.

A debate held under such conditions would degrade any candidate agreeing to it out of mere bravura. His hypocrisy would debase the campaign and demean the electoral process into a mere box-office attraction. As for FPJ himself, he has, by simply proposing it, confessed to being an impenitent demagogue who has no respect for the public debate as part of the democratic ethic. This is still another reason why he should withdraw from the presidential race and go back to the movies and his tinsel throne.

Temptation tips

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

DID you hear the story about a man who had a track record of living a lustful life? One day he went to his confessor and boasted that he is already a changed man. He has learned, he said, how to deal with temptation and how to avoid sin. As a clincher, he said: "Father, I am a changed man. In fact, I don't even come near my wife anymore, because my doctor advised "*Iwasan ang taba* (Avoid fats)!"

* * *

The man in our story will likely fall again because of overconfidence and rationalization. The best way to deal with our beasts without and within is to simply flee from them and not to deliberately leave our doors half open for them. You and I know that once we become proud and self-confident, we will fall. Once we take the road of alibis and rationalization, we will lose the way. The evil one is an expert when it comes to when, where and how to attack us. In today's Gospel (Lk. 4, 1-13) he attacked Jesus who was fasting for 40 days (when), in the desert (where), by offering him money, power and fame (how). With God's help, Jesus overcame the temptations. However, today's Gospel ends with the warning: That when the devil had exhausted every way of tempting Jesus, he left Him... "to return another time." Careful, the evil one is not only an expert. He is also very thorough, and he is very persistent.

* * *

If you think that temptations are no big deal for you, and that there is no clear and present danger as far as you are concerned, careful. That is precisely what the evil one wants you to think. Do not underestimate the enemy, and never overestimate yourself when dealing with temptations. As somebody put it: "When temptation calls, just drop the receiver." Period. And when you flee from temptation, don't leave a forwarding address. The thing is that we often ask the Lord to lead us not into temptation, while we ourselves go right on looking for it.

* * *

I am learning a lot from my dog Toffie. When I give him junk food, oily and salty food, he simply rejects it, no matter how hungry he is. "No" for him, is a complete sentence. The problem with us is that our "No" is often conditional and relative.

* * *

The other night, I finally had the courage to say "No" to my dog which wanted to sleep inside my room. I wanted that, too but, giving in meant a messy, smelly room, full of fleas. I had to play deaf to his persistent barking and knocking at my door with matching *paawa* effect. I had to be strong in my decision. It was not easy but after "crossing the Rubicon," I felt at peace about it. He, too. He still tries to get in whenever he can, and I still want him in, but, the matter is now clear, final and definitive. Period. Amen. That is how we should deal with temptations.

* * *

The Lenten season is here once again. Lent reminds us that our lives are only lent to us. On Ash Wednesday, we were told once again that we are "dust and to dust we shall return." The problem with some of us is that we think we are some kind of a stone, a fixed monument, or an unmovable mountain. But we are just "dust in the wind." The world was turning before, and will continue turning long after we are gone. Blinded by money, power, pleasure and fame, many of us cannot know who God is, and who we really are. If one humbles oneself before God, everything falls into place, and one lives a more peaceful and more meaningful life.

* * *

The best way to fight temptation is to be humble. Ash Wednesday reminds that we are dust (*abo*), so, we should not be *abosado*. A humble person will not be abusive of himself, of others and with God's mercy. A humble person will also not be *aborido*, i.e. worried about his/her spiritual welfare because God Himself will be His shield and strength. So in humility accept that you are dust (*abo*), then you will never be abusive (*abosado*) or worried (*aborido*). *Ka-abo, anong say mo?*

* * *

Last Wednesday, I received this text message that brought me to a moment of prayer: "As we begin this Lenten season, I would like to humbly ask your forgiveness if I have offended or hurt you in one way or another..." Forgiveness and reconciliation is the heart and the call of Lent. Let us hasten to His heart, and let us listen to His call.

* * *

Fr. Larry La Plante, SVD was a priest who radiated the gentleness of the Loving Father. This American missionary from Buffalo, New York who spent 36 years in the Philippines mostly in the North, was a picture of a simple, prayerful, joyful, hard-working yet welcoming missionary. He was a hugging and huggable person. He has gone ahead to the embrace of the Father. This Lenten season, let us let go of temptations and allow ourselves to hug and be hugged by our Loving Father.

* * *

A Moment with the Lord:

Lord, whenever I am tempted, help me to let go, and hug you, and allow myself to be hugged by you. Amen.

Who's afraid of Gen. Fortunato Abat?

REVEILLE

Ramon J. Farolan

IT had become almost an annual pilgrimage to Manaoag, Pangasinan for Gen. Fortunato Abat. Not to the Shrine of the Blessed Virgin but to a training facility for Army reservists, named after his son, 2nd Lt. Tito Fortunato Abat, PMA class of 1978, who was killed in operations against NPA rebels in Eastern Samar less than a year after graduation. The camp is home to the 54th Engineering Brigade of the Philippine Army. En route to the camp, little did Abat realize that his annual visit was about to be aborted.

There are not too many sons of generals who enter the military academy. There are even fewer who enter the PMA during their father's tenure as AFP chief of staff or as a service commander, meaning as head of the Army, Navy, Air Force or Constabulary (prior to its separation from the Armed Forces). Capt. Patrick de Villa, Class of 1994, decided to follow in his father's footsteps when Gen. Renato de Villa was AFP chief of staff and later, defense secretary. In the case of General Abat, two of his sons and one future son-in-law would join the long, gray line during his term as commanding general of the Philippine Army. His older son, Victor, Class of 1977, is now a full colonel serving as deputy brigade commander, 702nd Infantry Brigade, in Nueva Ecija, and the son-in-law, Jaime Caringal, Class of 1976, is a chief superintendent (one-star rank) with the Philippine National Police and assigned as the deputy director for operations of the National Capital Region (NCR). He was formerly the director for Region 4 (Southern Tagalog) but was taken out and downgraded to a deputy director. Don't ask why; your guess is as good as mine.

Are there any special privileges accorded sons of generals at the PMA? Yes—they eat very distinctive meals, collectively known as the "Abat" menu. For instance, breakfast consists of brewed coffee to help push down the news clippings about their fathers' activities and to avoid indigestion, they are strongly advised to chew the items properly before swallowing. For every mention of their fathers' name, a glass of water is used for toasting the event. After a while, there are less press releases about the general.

The first postwar batch of the military academy was the class of 1951. Fortunato Abat was a member of this group but even before joining the PMA, he had already put in two years as an enlisted man in the guerrilla forces during the Japanese occupation. He is probably one of the very few to rise from the enlisted ranks through cadetship, all the way to the top as head of a major service command. The No. 1 graduate of the class was Leopoldo Regis from Leyte who, as aide to President Ramon Magsaysay, perished in the Mount Manunggal tragedy in March 1957. Regis was also the first captain (Baron), a rare combination of academic excellence and military leadership qualities. In the history of the Academy, there have only been two cadets who graduated at the top of the class and also served as first captain: Aristeo [illegible], Class of 1938, and Regis.

Going back to Abat's frustrated visit to Manaoag, he had earlier been informed that the usual activities were scheduled: military honors upon arrival, wreath-laying, followed by talks on duty, courage, heroism and love of country, inspirational kinds of messages to honor the memory of a young officer who paid the supreme sacrifice so early in his military career. A few months after his death, his son would be born.

Even before he reached the camp, Abat was contacted on his cellphone and informed by the duty officer that the program for the day had been cancelled, mainly because of a threat involving NPA elements maneuvering in the area to destroy a telecom facility. Making further inquiries regarding the cancellation, he was informed that the orders had actually originated from higher headquarters. Contacting Lt. Gen. Efren Abu, the commanding general of the Army, he was politely informed that the situation was quite delicate and it was more prudent to forego with the ceremonies, or words to that effect. Moving up the chain of command, Abat tried to contact the AFP chief of staff, Gen. Narciso Abaya, but was not able to reach him and his calls were not returned. Abaya at one time served as his military assistant when he was defense secretary.

A few weeks back, Abat was a signatory to a full-page manifesto published in several newspapers calling for a "No Election (NO-EL)" scenario and the establishment of a new political order to carry out reforms in the country. Perhaps, it is a measure of his influence and clout that some people are so paranoid as to prevent him from commemorating the death of his son in a setting such as a military camp, with everything that this may imply.

They have every reason to feel threatened. Abat is no ordinary, run-of-the-mill general. He served as commander of the Central Mindanao Command in 1973 and his leadership prevented the secessionist rebels under Nur Misuari from overrunning the entire Southern Philippines. When he retired from the service, he left the army a disciplined and well-trained organization. Many of its senior officers are products of development programs which he instituted.

During the heyday of the Soviet Union, political commissars were assigned to all levels of command in the armed services. They called the shots on everything, political or military, overruling even the commander. In the present environment, are we seeing the hand of political commissars interfering in the affairs of our armed forces?

Where they stand

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

THERE'S a growing movement drawing groups as diverse as women's organizations, women's health advocates, family planning service providers, businesspeople, economists, health professionals, legislators and local government leaders, even media people, that seeks to elevate population policy and reproductive health as a campaign and electoral issue.

Traditionally dismissed as "soft" issues that surface only as a "by the way" when issues like poverty or underdevelopment crops up, population and reproductive health is finally getting the attention they deserve. And this is mainly because more and more people are getting alarmed at the consequences of the neglect, if not deliberate side-lining, of population issues and reproductive health services in recent years.

This is why these diverse groups are getting together to call the public's attention to these issues, as well as to get candidates, but especially those aspiring for the presidency, to articulate their thoughts on population and reproductive health, and to present to the public their stand on contentious related issues—making all modern methods of family planning available and accessible, and providing reproductive health services to adolescents, for instance.

To help voters discern where the different presidential candidates stand on these issues, groups like the Philippine Legislators Committee on Population and Development and the Family Planning Organization of the Philippines have conducted "political mapping," tracking the candidates' public statements on these matters.

The problem is that it's so easy to cloak one's real position on population policy, as well as on sexuality, sexual and reproductive health and rights, and self-expression, in broad generalities and trendy terminologies. This is why to get a true picture of where they stand, one must also dig deeper into their record and performance, especially on crafting legislation and policy and listening to all the stakeholders. It's very important, I think, to find out exactly who they consider stakeholders in this issue in the first place.

* * *

AS compiled by the Women's Feature Service for the MediaLinks Forum last Friday, here are summaries of the stand on population and reproductive health of five presidential candidates.

Former Education Secretary Raul Roco states that he wishes to protect "the reproductive health of women" and believes in the right of couples to be "informed" about family planning issues and all options available to them. He is adamant, though, about abortion which he says is "unconstitutional."

Fernando Poe Jr. has said he will work toward developing a "socially acceptable population policy" and that if elected he will "actively seek the cooperation of all sectors of society, including the Church" in the formulation of a program. He is all for "responsible parenthood," he has said.

President Macapagal-Arroyo anchors her stand on "respect for life and "absolute rejection of abortion." She has stated her policy as being that of promoting "responsible parenthood through natural family planning," though she has since amended that to acknowledge couples' need for "informed choice."

Sen. Panfilo Lacson has said he is "determined to embark on a population management program" even if this should entail the procurement of modern contraceptives like condoms and pills. He will also campaign for a "two children scheme" for newlyweds, and says the Catholic Church "must learn to adopt" all modern methods of contraception, including NFP.

Preacher Eddie Villanueva sees "population control" as the key solution to national problems, **believes in making all methods available to all couples, and preaches "population management in accordance with one's conscience and religious belief."**

These are just the statements for public consumption, though. What sentiments underlie a candidate's philosophy and policy on such intimate matters as reproduction and sexuality? How will they translate policy into programs, and what will the victory of one mean to the lives of real men, women, youth and children? More on these on Tuesday.

* * *

INDEED, it's not just the presidential candidates or the reproductive health and rights groups who are taking this matter seriously.

Next Sunday, March 7, women from different communities around Metro Manila will be shouting "Choice ko 'to! Walk ko 'to!" as they march from Sto. Domingo Church to Quezon City Hall to dramatize their call: "Reproductive Health: Women's Voice, Women's Choice, Vote for Women's Right to Choose!"

The women and their supporters are asking everyone to "Take the RH Challenge!," urging the public to get involved in this the first in a series of activities designed to "challenge candidates and electorate alike to make reproductive health—an issue with life-and-death, rights-and-discrimination implications for women—a key element of platforms of governance."

The march kicks off at 2 p.m. from Santo Domingo, a site chosen to dramatize the "meddling" of the institutional Church in the formulation and implementation of reproductive health policies. As soon as the marchers assemble in front of the City Hall, there will be a short rally to allow candidates to articulate their stands and platform on reproductive health, to be followed by a concert featuring respected names in alternative Philippine music: Cynthia Alexander, Bayang Barrios, Noel Cabangon, Cookie Chua, The Jerks, Susan Fernandez and Pan (formerly Yano).

The "Usapan-Kantahan para sa Kababaihan (Talking and Singing for Women)" should be a most fitting way to marshal women's energies for the bruising battles ahead!

The 'masa' vote

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

MY colleague Raul Pertierra of Ateneo de Manila's department of sociology takes issue with my column on the emergence of the "*masa*" vote (Public Lives, 2/8/04). He writes that my analysis, while "persuasive," suffers from "serious flaws," but does not say what these are. Instead he raises some questions and observations. His comment warrants a detailed response, and I thank him for writing (PDI, Letters, 2/21/04), because it forces social observers like us to reflect on the radical changes that have been silently taking place in our midst.

First, let me review the main arguments of that column, "The making of the '*masa*' vote." The *masa*, I said, who today determine the outcomes of Philippine politics, have not always been a social force to reckon with in our society. In the past, those who wielded political, economic, and moral power over them at the local level shaped their political beliefs and behavior. Access to television and overseas contract employment changed all this. The new prosperity brought in by overseas remittances from the mid-'70s onwards scattered television sets, not to mention VCRs, all over the countryside. The broadening of TV audiences led to a change in TV fare, and, more importantly, compelled the use of the Filipino language as a medium of serious political opinion.

Television, I argued, more than radio, connected the *masa* to the circuits of national life. It broke their dependence on the moral and political elders of their local communities. For the first time, they felt entitled to have their own opinions on issues that affected the whole nation. Television also demystified government and, with it, the politicians who run it.

In the meantime, television intensified the cult of celebrity, lavishing upon broadcast newsreaders the same adulation that used to be reserved only to movie actors and basketball stars. It didn't take long before celebrity status would become political capital. This is the situation we have today.

Rogelio de la Rosa, the prince of Tagalog movies, was indeed, as Pertierra points out, the first celebrity to seek political office, first as senator and then as president. But in 1961, when he made a bid for the presidency, leadership recruitment through the political parties was still strong. No major political parties of that time would have him as standard-bearer. He had to withdraw from the race, that, incidentally, was won by Diosdado Macapagal, his brother-in-law.

Things have changed since De la Rosa's time. Since the 1987 elections, we have seen a deluge of mass media celebrities in politics. But, of course, this is not to suggest that henceforth there would be no room for professional politicians. For all the erosion of their influence, traditional politicians remain very much in control of the nation's political life.

Professor Pertierra wonders why some very popular actors, like Nora Aunor, have failed to win public office. But of course, mere celebrity does not guarantee political victory. The popular actress ran for governor in a province that was still very much a stronghold of political clans. In contrast, the action star Lito Lapid first ran for vice governor and then governor of Pampanga, a very much urbanized province that was seeing the demise of its own traditional political oligarchy. He won every election because he followed the same patronage route that every local politician before him had taken. Aunor's decision was quite impulsive; she hadn't made investments in Bicol politics before she threw her hat into the ring. She would have fared better if she ran for senator, a national position, which is what the husbands of Sharon Cuneta and of Vilma Santos respectively did in 2001.

But Pertierra doubts the sea change in the country's political configuration that I wrote about. "Why have these significant social changes not produced other political shifts such as the rise of women, youth, or religious (except the Iglesia ni Cristo) voting blocks?" You can ask the same question of European and American politics. I don't think there have emerged any such blocks even in the mature democracies. The INC voting block is of course a phenomenon all its own and surely does not owe its existence to modernity. Be that as it may, it is fascinating to watch party-list organizations like Abanse Pinay, a women's party, and Akbayan, a multisectoral group, flourish in the current political milieu. I don't think that the party-list concept would have made any sense in a milieu that had not been previously touched by civil society activism.

But, Pertierra insists: "The present political spectrum looks remarkably like the days of the *trapos* and political kingpins. While some things have undoubtedly changed, others have remained stubbornly the same. We cannot blame the *masa* for both the change and the continuity."

The whole thrust of my piece on the *masa* vote has been to examine the conditions that made the emergence of the *masa* vote possible. I celebrate what I believe to be their emancipation from their traditional political handlers, but I do not necessarily agree with the way they now use their vote. If it is just to elect useless celebrities or to extract short-term concessions from traditional politicians, then maybe things haven't really changed much. I do not blame the *masa*. Like the rest of us, they are individuals expressing their desires and responding to opportunities—a nation in itself but not yet for itself. I know it will not always be like this.

* * *

Comments to randolf@pacific.net.ph

Presidential debate

COMMENTARY

Raul J. Palabrica

BY REFUSING to participate in a presidential debate, opposition candidate Fernando Poe Jr. has started a precedent. No candidate for the highest office in the land has, to my recollection, turned down an invitation to meet his or her opponents in a public discussion of their political platforms.

Call it a debate, public forum or town hall meeting, the practice of gathering the candidates for the presidency in one table to talk about their program of government while the public watched on TV or listened on radio has become some sort of a tradition in our country.

Except for the sham presidential election conducted by President Ferdinand Marcos in 1982, where he won overwhelmingly (is that surprising?) over former Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, and the 1985 snap election, no presidential contest has been held without the aspirants participating in, at least, a public exchange of ideas.

Most Filipinos expect the people who seek their votes to "touch" them, whether in person or through alternative means. The ordinary voter wants to connect with the candidates with his senses, either by eye contact, handshake or hearing them talk.

While the ability to speak or, to be more precise, to communicate, is not a criterion to hold public office, past political exercises have shown that that skill is an essential ingredient for winning an election. The more eloquent a candidate is, the higher his chances of attracting the voters' attention and, possibly, their votes come election day.

Right to refuse

If Poe does not want to participate in the presidential debate, that's his privilege. Nobody, not the Commission on Elections or even the Supreme Court, can compel him to sit down with the five other candidates to talk about their vision for the country in the coming years. His reason for rejecting the invitation to a public debate should be respected.

He cannot be begrudged his belief that the debate will not accomplish anything and, worse, would further divide the country. No doubt, he and his advisers weighed the consequences of his action before they agreed on it.

Some voters may construe that move as a sign of weakness. A candidate who cannot explain and defend his platform for 80 million Filipinos has no business seeking the people's mandate to be their leader. It is not enough to spout motherhood statements, Poe should be able to flesh out his vision for the country and show to those who hold contrary ideas that it is viable and doable.

Others, however, may find his refusal to take part in the planned public forum commendable. It's in keeping with his desire to dissociate himself from the traditional politicians who are long on words but short on deeds. Indeed, if voice mileage and lengthy statements of its public officials were the criteria for a country's progress, the Philippines would have long joined the ranks of First World countries.

But for how long can Poe elude public scrutiny of his platform and, at the same time, inspire confidence in his ability to lead this country out of its misery? It is not enough that his program of government is published in major newspapers or aired through press releases or statements made by people who claim to talk on his behalf.

Straight talk

The people deserve to hear it straight from Poe how he intends to provide the leadership needed to improve our living conditions. The *masa* that he claims to represent are more intelligent and discerning than most of us think. While they may swoon and shriek at his presence, deep within them they want to be assured that Poe will be a meaningful alternative to the traditional politicians who have made fools out of them for decades.

If Poe has a record of exemplary public service behind him, it may not be necessary to ask him to explain his platform to the public and defend it against its critics. But the problem is outside of his movies, very little is known about him. Sure, he was good as a movie actor, director or producer. But is his expertise in that field sufficient to keep the factories running, educate our youth and maintain peace and order in our society?

It's possible that the real reason behind Poe's refusal to have his program of government discussed and analyzed by his opponents in public is because he has poor communication skills. That if forced to elaborate on his platform and reply to the critique of his opponents, he may find himself groping for words or unable to express himself.

On the rare occasions that he allowed himself to be interviewed by the media, Poe's answers were short or cryptic; when pressed for detail, he excused himself and claimed he had more important things to attend to. Once, he raised his voice when a reporter insisted on getting from him a fuller response to a pointed question.

Communication

The public knows that Poe does not have the facility in oral English that Ms Macapagal-Arroyo and Raul Roco have. Neither is he proficient in the choice of strong words that Panfilo Lacson is noted for. Nor is he a polished Pilipino speaker like Bro. Eddie Villanueva.

Poe need not change his communication style. If he is not fluent in English, so be it. It's not the end of the world for him. The postwar leaders of Japan and Germany were not fluent English speakers, but that inadequacy did not prevent them from providing the leadership needed to put their countries back on their feet with minimum assistance from outsiders.

Poe can talk in Pilipino in the manner that he is used to. By using the native language, he will endear himself more to the *masa* where his political strength lies. The reason Sen. Noli de Castro enjoys a high popularity rating is because he speaks the language that the greater number of our people understand.

The public will not take it against Poe if he admits to his shortcomings on certain issues and pleads for additional time to understand them. If he speaks from the heart in explaining or defending his program of action using a language familiar to the radio and TV audience, he has no reason to fear facing his opponents in public.

What's important is he presents his platform to the public and allows it to be analyzed and dissected by others who think differently. The public will appreciate him for that opportunity.

THEY SAID

A house divided

"The Senate is not only divided between the administration and the opposition, even the administration and opposition blocs themselves are divided."

—House Speaker Jose de Venecia Jr. on the Senate's poor performance

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Editor Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.

ELECTION 2004

Roco pushes for agenda of hope

RESULTS of a survey a private group conducted 10 days into the election campaign show that one out of every three voters is either undecided or will still change his/her first choice for president.

Pulse Asia Inc. reported that 8.1 percent of those it polled nationwide from Feb. 16 to Feb. 20 were either undecided or had no choice at all. A total of 23 percent said the possibility that they would change their preference between now and May 10 was "big/very big."

This means that 12 million of the 36.4 million registered voters (as of February 2003) are still uncommitted. So, it's still anybody's race.

Pulse Asia did not say why a large number of voters had not committed themselves to a particular presidential aspirant. That's partly because voters have yet to learn about the platform of government and the competence and character of the candidates.

To help voters decide, we are running the stand of former Sen. Raul Roco on economic, political and social issues.

Roco is the fourth presidential candidate we featured in "Talk of the Town." The others were actor Fernando Poe Jr. (Feb. 26), Sen. Panfilo Lacson (Feb. 22) and Bro. Eddie Villanueva (Feb. 19).

Opportunities for all, special privileges to none

By Raul S. Roco
Presidential candidate
Alyansa ng Pag-Asa

Hope is the driving force as we strive to establish an enabling presidency. No Filipino will be left behind in a society that is more secure, more just and more prosperous.

That hope is inspired by the Filipino people's God-given gifts of enterprise, creativity and learning which urgently need an enabling leadership to allow these gifts to fully flower in a fast-changing world. Sad to say, that kind of leadership is missing today.

Under the present leadership, the perception of corruption in the Philippines is at an all-time high, according to Transparency International.

There are also 4.4 million Filipinos unemployed and 6.3 million underemployed—an all-time high, according to the National Statistics Office.

The peace and order situation is such that kidnapping goes on unabated and the Philippines has become the kidnap and travel advisory capital of Asia.

But come May 10, the Filipino people, exercising their democratic rights, will throw this weak and corrupt leadership out of office. Taking that leader's place will be someone who has met successfully the most rigorous tests of performance in a long career that began with leading the studentry. Most recently, he was an effective change agent in both the legislative and executive branches of our government.

And these are not empty words. These are based on public record. This enabling leadership will be judged by history as the best choice for the modern Philippine presidency.

It is a leadership which knows that development starts with people, and that the government's main role is to remove obstacles for such a development agenda to prosper.

This development agenda is called the Agenda of Hope. It is spelled out as follows:

H - Honest government

O - Opportunity for all, special privileges for none

P - Peace, productivity and prosperity

E - Education and environment for sustainable development

1. People above all

People are our wealth. They are more important than institutions. They must be protected, nurtured and assured of fair returns.

We must build up the capacity of our people, especially our women and youth, and our communities to benefit from the Global Information Society as defined by the United Nations.

Our nation must maximize returns from its stock of human and intellectual capital. Human development is measured not merely in income terms; it also includes the quality of life, particularly in meeting such basic needs as education and health.

Education

"*Bawat* graduate, *bayani at marangal*" is our guiding vision for Philippine education. Despite its advances, as we pursue our goal of a graduate in every home, there is still much to do.

Libreng edukasyon means that a Roco presidency will implement a truly 100-percent free education in all the public primary and secondary schools. This was done when I was secretary of education. Not only was tuition free but also all other peripheral compulsory contributions asked by the schools from parents were abolished. The peripheral compulsory contributions are back in the schools. This will again be abolished in a Roco presidency.

At the tertiary level, Malacañang will work closely with the Commission on Higher Education to improve teacher training, distance and continuing education and the quality of the nation's college graduates.

Filipinos are talented and creative people. Education in a Roco presidency will enhance creativity and freedom of expression through traditional and modern arts. A priority will be the promotion of cultural literacy among Filipinos and the development of indigenous culture.

Of equal priority are excellence in math and the natural and social sciences as well as in technology and communication.

Health

People are our wealth. It is our mission to nurture a society of literate women, men and children. The health of the Filipino people is a cornerstone in accomplishing this mission.

I believe that health is not the absence of disease but the presence of a state of well-being. Thus a health program that is sustainable and responsive will be the hallmark of health promotion activities under a Roco administration.

In pursuit of this program, I will:

—Make the Philippine Insurance Corp. a true guarantor of the Filipino people's health.

—Make PhilHealth cover 70 percent of hospitalization costs with as little red tape as possible.

—Invest in improving the capacity and supply of health workers by initiating high-level bilateral negotiations with countries importing Filipino health professionals; the negotiations to be done under the auspices of the Presidential Commission for the Management of Global Migration, will work for financial assistance to be given to the Philippines to train globally competitive nurses while upgrading nurses' remuneration in the country.

—Protect the reproductive health of women by keeping couples informed about *family planning* issues and available family planning methods, which they will chose according to their religious beliefs. *Abortion*, which is a crime against the unborn, will not be tolerated by a Roco administration.

—*Food security* is a basic human right and must be a high priority of government. There must be adequate food on the table to protect the health of the people.

2. Economy

We need leaders who will enable the Philippines to recapture its status as one of the most important economies of Asia. The talent for enterprise and the competitive spirit of the people are there. The leadership must remove the roadblocks for all these talents to prosper.

Overall, there must be vigorous efforts to improve governance—especially in the transparency and accountability on how taxpayers' money is used—and to secure peace and personal security as part of the effort to build investor confidence. Implementation of economic policy must be predictable and pursuant to law.

All these will be done under a Roco administration:

—Corruption will be stopped by transparency and leadership by example. When I was secretary of education, I ordered that all purchases of textbooks must be through open and transparent bidding. As a result I was able to buy 44 million textbooks for the same amount that used to buy only 15 million textbooks. Because of my success in fighting corruption, the Department of Education (DepEd), which was ranked the fourth most corrupt agency of government by a Social Weather Stations survey, became the most trusted agency in a survey done eight months later by SWS.

This success at the DepEd can be made throughout the bureaucracy under a Roco administration, which will:

—Increase the tax effort ratio to 20 percent of gross domestic product by broadening the tax base and ensuring an equitable distribution of the tax burden; this will help cut the *budget deficit* and pay the country's *external debt*.

—Generate enterprise by following the principle of geographic clustering, create value-added and the convergence of government support for the economic priorities of local governments.

—Effect major improvements in infrastructure, including the quality and coverage of roads; inter-island transport , water and sanitation; and power.

—On *poverty and jobs*: A Roco administration is committed to a pro-poor growth strategy. It is a strategy that enables the poor to actively participate in economic activity and benefit proportionately more than the non-poor from overall income increase. The poor will not only have jobs, but their share of the economic pie will be greater.

—On *globalization*: It promises to make people more wealthy and nations more free.

But there is a need to bridge the wealth between the people living in rich countries and in poor ones.

A Roco presidency will urge that the international community make the global trading system not only more free but more fair and equitable.

—On *pork barrel*: A Roco administration will demand that this be subject to strict accounting and auditing rules and that the projects be implemented by local governments and by members of Congress.

—On *agrarian reform*: The land must belong to the tillers of the soil, not to the landlords. Great effort must be made to salvage the country's corruption-ridden agrarian reform program to finally benefit the poor farmers.

—On *housing*: Affordable housing especially for the lowest income groups will be a priority under my administration.

—On *power rates*: The possibility of negotiating power contracts with independent power producers must be reviewed.

3. Local governance

Our program of action for local government units is based on the principle of greater local autonomy, enforceable standards of service delivery, more meaningful participation in governance and aggressive metropolitanization.

Local governments, as fulcrums of regional development, must be architects of their own future and not passive recipients of central government dictates.

4. Rule of law

Filipinos should learn lessons from the constitutional crisis sparked by the impeachment complaint filed by a faction of the House of Representatives against the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

From the failed House constitutional adventurism we all realize that well-functioning legal institutions and a government bound by the rule of law are crucial to the stability of our political and economic system.

In reasserting the rule of law, we will continue to reform the administration of justice; modernize and retrain the police and the military; secure upward mobility for young, competent and idealistic officers.

Pursue measures to reform the bureaucracy such as decentralizing procedural requirements; emphasizing the quality of service by government; strengthening ethical values; and ensuring transparency in public transactions.

Keep the *peace* table open with the National Democratic Front and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front while adhering to the principle that Mindanao must be led by Mindanaoans.

Terrorists and perpetrators of *heinous crimes* will be caught and punished.

—On corruption and plunder charges against ex-president *Joseph Estrada*: He must be given all the opportunities to defend himself from these charges.

—On *jueteng*: Legalizing it is not out of the question. Gambling must depend upon the moral standard of the community. A legalized *jueteng* could freely operate in Pasay City, but Quezon City doesn't like it.

—On legalizing *prostitution*: This will not be allowed under my administration. However, pimps and other victimizers of women will be caught and punished.

—On *gay rights*: The fight for equality and decent treatment of gays deserves respect in our society.

—On *divorce*: I am not for divorce. The Constitution values the family as the foundation of the nation.

—On the *death penalty*: I am against the death penalty because it has not proven to be an effective deterrent to crime and because human beings, even criminals; are capable of being rehabilitated. Furthermore, the death penalty has resulted in the execution of juvenile offenders, the mentally retarded and the poor who were later proven to be innocent. But the rich and powerful have been rarely executed for their crimes.

—On *Charter change and shift to the parliamentary form*: These are issues that need a lot of time for study and must not be tackled during this election period.

—On *people power*: Filipinos have achieved Edsa I and Edsa II. But people power is most effective if the leaders blessed by the people remain faithful to the principles and ideals of the uprising. Only then can we have true reforms.

—On *Supreme Court* decisions on economic issues: A president, who is also a trained lawyer, will have an advantage in holding a dialogue with an activist Supreme Court.

—On the *Marcos stolen wealth*: They belong to the people and efforts must be made to recover them no matter how long it takes.

5. Environment

I believe in development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. In pursuit of this goal, my administration will engage in accelerating sustainable development measures such as promoting sustainable human development including livable—and workable—cities; protection of the atmosphere; managing our fragile ecosystem by combating deforestation, desertification and drought.

Promoting sustainable agriculture and rural development; conservation of biological diversity; and protection of oceans, coastal areas and the protection of, rational use and development of their living resources.

6. Foreign affairs

The Philippines is an active member of the family of nations whose ties are based on mutually beneficial and fair relations under an international rule of law. As such, a Roco administration will:

—Continue to strengthen the country's ties with Asean, the US, China, Japan, South Korea and countries in the Pacific Rim, the European Union, countries of South Asia, Latin America and Africa.

—Continue to actively participate in rules-based, member-driven organizations such as the World Trade Organization on the basis of free and fair trade while supporting, within the WTO, Group 20 led by Brazil, India, China and South Africa, which is demanding that rich countries remove massive subsidies that give their farmers undue advantage in world trade.

—Provide more active support to the collective multilateral approach to the solution of international conflict through the United Nations in order to make the world a safer place.

7. Values

I believe in the values of *sipag, aral at dasal* or hard work, study and prayer, with the family as the principal unit of society as enshrined in our Constitution. From the family emerges people who freely participate in development.

This vision of development sees the true national interest to be the interests of all the people, especially the poor. National development is not simply creating wealth, but enabling the poor to share more of the wealth, and the social transformation it implies.

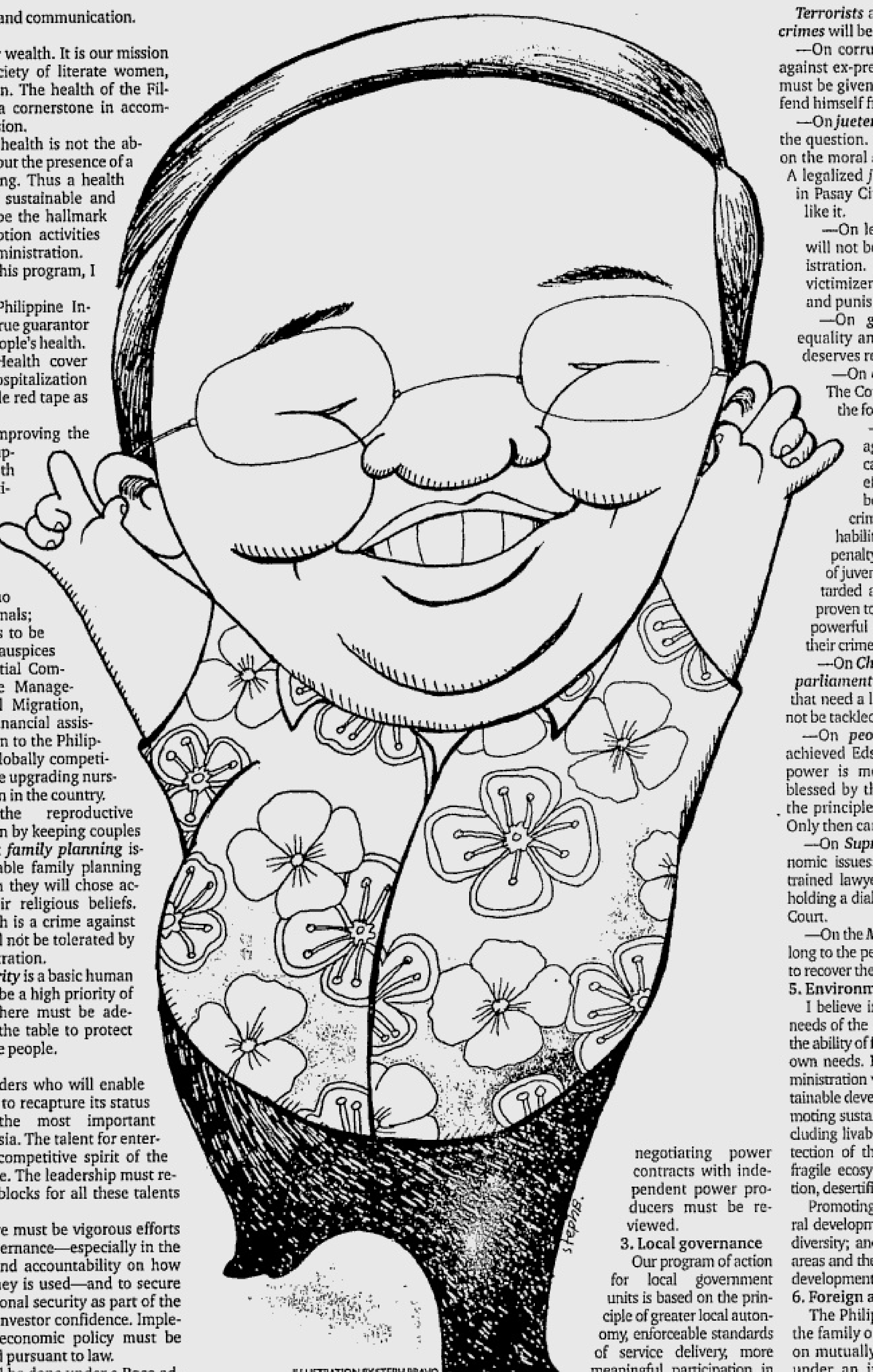
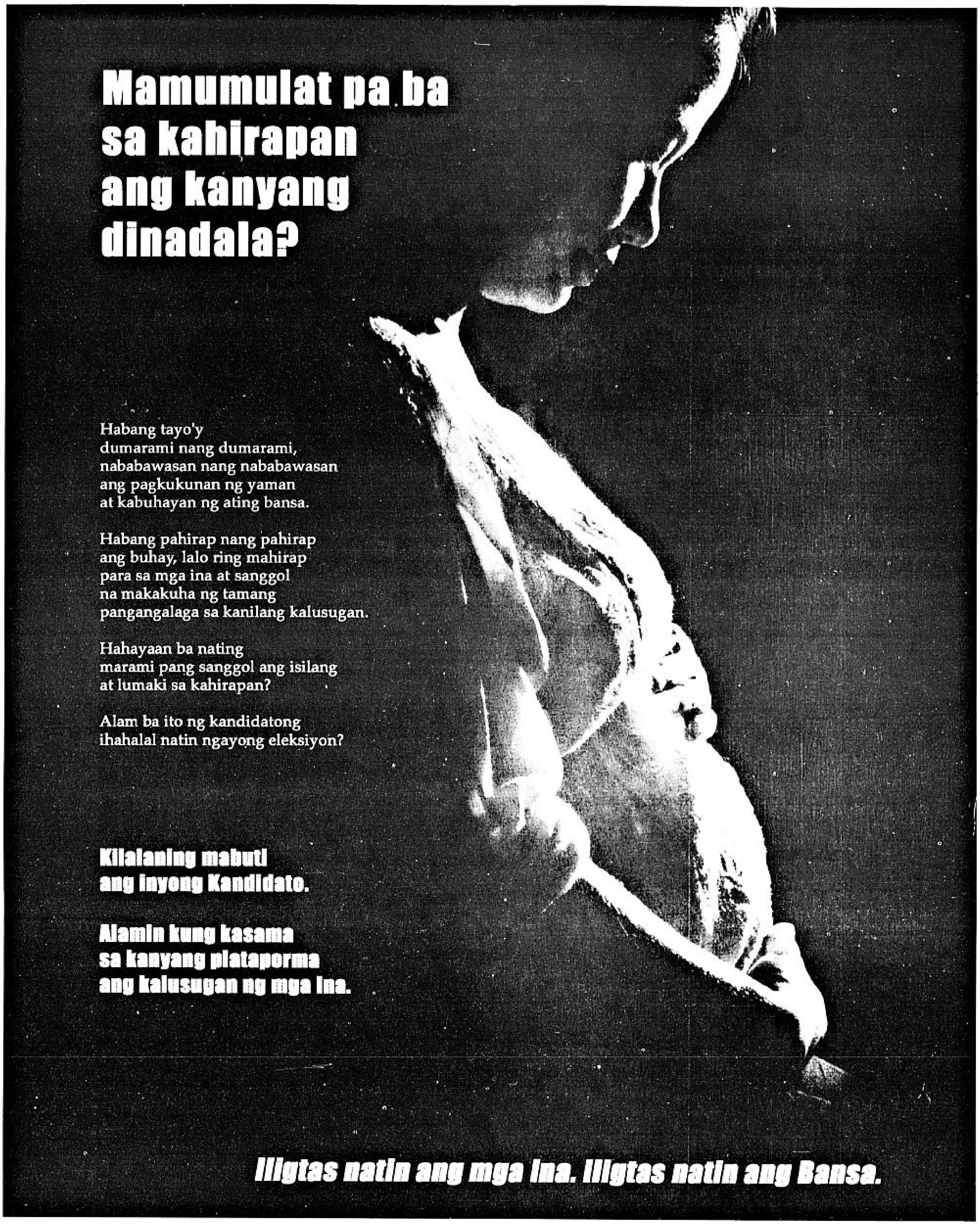


ILLUSTRATION BY STEPH BRAVO



Mamumulat pa ba sa kahirapan ang kanyang dinadala?

Habang tayo'y
dumarami nang dumarami,
nababawasan nang nababawasan
ang pagkukunan ng yaman
at kabuhayan ng ating bansa.

Habang pahirap nang pahirap
ang buhay, lalo ring mahirap
para sa mga ina at sanggol
na makakuha ng tamang
pangangalaga sa kanilang kalusugan.

Hahayaan ba nating
marami pang sanggol ang isilang
at lumaki sa kahirapan?

Alam ba ito ng kandidatong
ihahalal natin ngayong eleksiyon?

Kilalaning mabuti
ang inyong Kandidato.

Alamin kung kasama
sa kanyang plataporma
ang kalusugan ng mga Ina.

Iligtas natin ang mga Ina. Iligtas natin ang Bansa.

Fight poverty. Address the population problem.

Reducing poverty has been among the top priorities of every presidential candidate for as long as we remember. In 2000, the government even committed to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which lists the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger as its first goal.

Nevertheless, progress towards reducing poverty remains excruciatingly slow. This is because the population problem, which is one among the crucial factors in the fight against poverty, is not being addressed. It is clear that many politicians, for fear of the politically influential Catholic hierarchy's wrath, are still very much wary of tackling this issue head-on. This, despite the following facts:

- 39.4% percent of our population or almost 31 million Filipinos are living on less than 38 pesos a day (UN, 2003);
- Although subsistence poverty declined from 20.4% in 1991 to 16.7% in 2000, the magnitude of food-poor families increased from 2.4 million families in 1991 to 2.5 million families in 2000. About 78.8% of these families live in the rural areas (UN, 2003);
- Poverty incidence is greater among families that have more children. Only 15.7% of two-child families are poor; by contrast, almost half (48.7%) of the families that have seven children are poor (NSO, 2000);
- Contraceptive use among poor women is much lower (42.9%) than among non-poor women (51.5%); unmet need for family planning is much higher for poor women (26.4%) than for non-poor women (17.9%) (NSO, 2002);
- Per capita income, which was 44,591 pesos in 2000 or roughly 124 pesos per person per day, is one of the lowest in the world (UN, 2003). We have the lowest GDP per capita growth in East and Southeast Asia at less than 1.5% (Pernia, 2003).

These are the reasons why children who come from large families, that tend to be poor, are so much more at a disadvantage than children from smaller non-poor families. And when they enter the labor force, they consequently have fewer opportunities than the latter, making it almost impossible for them to escape the intergenerational cycle of poverty.

The overwhelming evidence all points to this glaring truth: **the country's large and rapidly growing population is one of the critical factors causing and perpetuating intergenerational poverty.**

It is high time for us to have leaders who will make the overused terms "poverty alleviation" and "poverty reduction" truly meaningful for the people by addressing the population problem through concrete and comprehensive policies and programs.

Population and Reproductive Health Movement

A Vote for Population Management and Reproductive Health is a Vote for Life

Alberto G. Romualdez, MD
Friendly Care Foundation

Aurora Silayan-Go
Foundation for Adolescent Development

Roberto M. Ador
Philippine Legislators' Committee on Population and Reproductive Health

Eden Divinagracia
Philippine NGO Council on Population, Health and Welfare

Friendly Care Foundation Incorporated
FriendlyCare CLINIC
FAMILY PLANNING • FAMILY HEALTH

Foundation for Adolescent Development, Inc.

PLCPD
Philippine Legislators' Committee on Population and Development Foundation, Inc.

PHILIPPINE NGO COUNCIL ON POPULATION, HEALTH AND WELFARE, INC (PNGOC)

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But having a taste of Batangas coffee is not enough. Roco expressed his plan to revive the coffee industry, which he said was born in this city.

"Kapeng Barako is the Batanguenos' point of pride. It's the winning advantage of Batangueños," Roco said. "The only problem now is that the industry is dying because of neglect."

Asked why he plans to revive the coffee industry when the mayor of the city where the coffee industry was born uses instant coffee Blend 45, he said, "maybe it's time to look for a new mayor who drinks Barako (Liberica) coffee."

Coffee's birthplace

Lipa was the birthplace of the coffee industry in the country and used to be the biggest producer of Barako (Liberica) coffee that supplied the world during the 1800s.

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But the coffee rust that plagued the Brazilian, African and Javanese coffee plantations came to the Philippines in 1889 and destroyed Lipa's coffee industry.

Liberalization

After the plague, Lipeños still tried to cultivate coffee, but introduced the Robusta variety, the type of coffee that giant instant coffee manufacturers, such as Nestlé, used to make the powdered instant coffee.

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The cut-down coffee trees now line the highway as driftwood for sale.

Driftwoods are used by orchid growers to hang their plants on.

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"There is a move now by Figaro to revive the Barako. The only problem is that it is in Cavite, not here in Batangas," Roco said. "Figaro is using real Barako and I think they can help in reviving the Barako here in Lipa." *Mei Magsino, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

ELECTION GUARD

VAL HANDUMON

A Marine stands guard at a checkpoint in Marawi City with campaign posters of candidates in his background. Some areas in the country are under a tight watch by election authorities because of their history of election violence.

GMA, Palace exec say Mindoro slayings solved

By Juliet Labog-Javellana and Delfin Mallari
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

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In due time, she said, the authorities would be able to arrest the other suspects and the mastermind in the slaying of Magsino, mayoral candidate of the ruling Lakas-CMD, and Fortu, district coordinator of the militant Bayan Muna, on Feb. 13.

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She did not give details on the suspect.

"I commend the PNP director for Mimaropa for getting at the bottom of this case," she said.

In a talk with reporters in Calapan, Oriental Mindoro, Marita Jimenez, presidential adviser on official development assistance, said authorities have cracked the case open.

Jimenez said the two suspects in the killing of Magsino and Fortu are now the subjects of a massive police manhunt.

Identities withheld

She withheld the identities of the suspects in order not to jeopardize the ongoing police operation.

"One of the suspects has been positively identified last Tuesday by at least two eyewitnesses. The identity of the other suspect is still being verified," she told the INQUIRER in a phone interview.

Jimenez was in Calapan City yesterday to meet the local press to disclose the latest development.

She said the witnesses are now under the custody of the Witness Protection Program of the government.

"We can safely say that the case is now closed as far as the identities of the triggermen are concerned," Jimenez said. She also ruled out that the military was responsible for the double murders.

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Jimenez said she was instructed by Ms Macapagal to personally inform the families of the victims about the latest development.

"Both families are very happy. But they still want to know the masterminds behind the dastardly killing," she said.

Cases filed

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The police official was with Jimenez in Calapan City.

He said theories that New People's Army was behind the killings is now "a farfetched angle."

Immediately after the killing, the military pointed to the NPA as behind the assassination.

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Politics

Asked if the crime was politically motivated, she replied: "We cannot discount it. The angle might point that way."

She added, "The mastermind could also be Mindoro-based."

When contacted for his reaction, Bayan Muna Rep. Satur Ocampo sounded not too enthusiastic about the development. "It will remain as just a police theory if they will not arrest and interrogate the suspect," he said over the phone.

"That NPA as the killers angle, it's only the military and police that were peddling that ever since," he said.

He stood pat on their earlier position that the killings were the work of the military's 204th Infantry Brigade based in the island.

"We will closely monitor the development in Mindoro until we are satisfied that the investigators have an airtight case against their suspects," Ocampo said.

cut & clip

Galing Pilipino Movement

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MARCH 2004 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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at Chowking Pioneer, Mandaluyong

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FREE BRUNCH! Hosted by Chowking

NATURAL FARMING SEMINAR
8am to 5pm, Saturday, March 20, 2004
Chowking Pioneer, Mandaluyong City

BABUYAN NA HINDI AMOY BABOY!

Innovative Galing Pilipino seminar conducted by Mr. Andry Lim. Attend this seminar and find out how to raise pigs... ***WALANG HUGAS, WALANG LIGO, WALANG BAHO!*** Learn how to grow ***CHEMICAL-FREE VEGETABLES AND FRUITS***. And know how to make concoctions using natural ingredients found in your backyard.

Seminar Fee: P500.00 for GPM members, P1,000.00 for non-members

Galing Housekeeping Seminar
Hosted by Victoria Group of Compound
8am to 5pm, Monday, March 22, 2004
Panorama Training Room
Victoria Court Pasig City

GPM's eco-agro tourism program. **BISITA PILIPINAS**, will enlist private homes, preferably ancestral houses, whose owners and caretakers are willing to participate in the development of a local bed and breakfast homestay program. Learn the techniques of quality housekeeping... find out how to make beds ala hotel style... know the proper use of cleaning aids... *AND MORE*! A well-kept house speaks of a well-run home.

Seminar Fee: P100.00 for GPM Members, P200.00 for non-members

KAPIHAN

GP KAPIHAN
8am to 11am, Saturday, March 27, 2004
at Chowking Pioneer, Mandaluyong

This monthly forum presents solutions to current and relevant issues concerning various sectors through inspirational sharing by Galing Pilipino role models. The GP Kapihan aims to encourage attendees to do the same and become significant individuals and contributors to a better society.

Join us as we feature ***"GALING PINOY PARA SA KAPWA PINOY"***. Hear the World Bank Panibagong Paraan 2004 winners share their innovative projects meant to uplift the lives of our fellow Pilipinos.

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For GPM membership particulars, call GPM Foundation Inc.
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WOW DICK GORDON
GO DON

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PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN BING GONZALES/PDI MINDANAO BUREAU

Supporters of the party-list group Bayan Muna start the campaign period by putting up the group's posters along the streets of Davao City. The group is hoping to win seats in the House of Representatives again but has complained that some of its members and supporters are being harassed.

Leftist solon doubts US motive in poll observers

LUCENA CITY—Party-list Bayan Muna Rep. Satur Ocampo has expressed skepticism on the agenda of at least 50 US representatives who would be sent to observe the coming national elections in the country.

"I can't hide my skepticism. What's the true agenda of these 50 US observers?" Ocampo said in a phone interview.

But for opposition vice presidential candidate Sen. Loren Legarda, the arrival of foreign observers would serve as a guarantee for the holding of clean and honest elections this coming May.

"It's a welcome development. This should forewarn the Macapagal-Arroyo administration not to ... use government resources in any hanky-panky in the coming elections," she said.

"It's good that foreigners will come and observe the elections. They can see for themselves if we really have a true democracy in this country or not," opposition senatorial candidate Juan Ponce Enrile said here.

Enrile said the coming of foreign observers should not be construed as an intrusion into the country's internal affairs.

"During the time of former President Marcos, there were also foreign observers in the elections," he said.

Ocampo explicitly raised his concern on the participation of the US Agency for International Development (USAID).

"USAID is the avid supporter of all AGILE (Accelerating Growth, Investment and Liberalization with Equity) projects by posting American agents in sensitive government offices in its open economic intervention in the country and in promoting US-designed globalization," he said.

"But the bottom line here is, those US representatives will be here just to oversee the victory of their presidential candidate, which is GMA, or it could also be FPJ," he said.

He said another primary intention of the US representatives is to protect their interest in the country.

"The Filipino people should keep a watchful eye on these US observers," he said.

On Thursday, US Embassy Charge d' Affaires Joseph Mussomeli revealed that the United States planned to field 40-50 observers as part of an international group to monitor the elections.

Mussomeli said the observers would be selected from various US government agencies and non-government organizations.

He said the USAID would provide $75,000 in initial funds for the advance team.

Crispin Beltran, Anakpawis political party chair, said the US delegation is an "overt spy operation."

"It's an insult, an affront to what remains of Philippine independence. It only proves how tight the US' stranglehold on the Philippine political system is," he said.

"No doubt, the US is keeping tabs on all presidential candidates and gauging who among them is the best person for the job, that of being the US' top lackey in Southeast Asia," he said. *Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Court junks raps vs 4 bombing suspects

GENERAL SANTOS CITY—A local court here decided to dismiss charges of multiple murder and multiple frustrated murder against four suspects in the June 24, 2000 bomb attacks in the city.

Judge Laureano Alzate of the Regional Trial Court Branch 35 cited in his Feb. 24 decision the lack of witnesses to pin down suspects Jimmy Matalam, Edgar Aton Gubat, Dema Macayao and Guindatu Mamantal Dulang alias Commander Bimbo.

Police said witnesses positively identified the suspects as being behind the six bombings that rocked the city's commercial district during that year.

Only one person died in the explosions while 41 others were injured but the bombings terrorized the whole city.

But during a series of hearing on the charges against the suspects, none of the witnesses secured by the police stood to testify despite subpoenas.

With this development, Alzate said the suspects could no longer be held in jail in connection with the bombings.

While he dismissed the charges, Alzate said authorities could always revive the case if witnesses would testify.

But of the four accused, only Commander Bimbo was released because the three other suspects were facing other charges in court. *Aquiles Z. Zonio, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Military, human rights groups cross ideological lines to help wounded reb

By Ma. Diosa Labiste
PDI Visayas Bureau

ILOILO CITY—Not many wounded rebels are as lucky as Arlan Tarino, 35, who has friends and enemies to worry about his health and rising cost of medical treatment.

A bullet hit Tarino's left and right jaw during a clash between the New People's Army guerrillas and government soldiers on Feb. 24 at Sitio Tuwang-tuwangan, Barangay Bungsuan, Dumarao town in Capiz province.

Confined at the intensive care unit of the Western Visayas Medical Center (WVMC) in Iloilo City, he was declared out of danger but unable to speak because of his wounds that also caused his face to swell.

Tarino's case is unique because both his captors, the members of the Philippine Army, and the militants, composed of human rights advocates, people's and church groups, extended help to him.

Representatives from the two groups, which treat each other with distrust, met at the hospital Friday, Feb. 27, together with Dr. Jose Mari Fermin, chief of WVMC.

Weak

Both camps expressed their concern for the plight of Tarino, who, unfortunately, was too weak to wave or even gaze at his visitors.

Jeffrey Celiz, chair of Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan) Panay, said their group wanted to check up on Tarino to see if they could help him. Last Feb. 25, at the height of the transport strike, militants have donated more than P6,700 to help buy Tarino's antibiotics after they heard Army Capt. Lowen Marquez asking for donations over a radio station.

Celiz said that Marquez even resorted to witch-hunting when he said that Tarino's communist friends should send in cash to buy life-saving medicines. Celiz said the money came partly from the donation box at the transport strike centers of Bayan and Piston, a transport group.

Sgt. Noli Alada, of Task Force Panay under the 3rd Infantry Division of the Philippine Army, said the Army promised to foot the hospitalization bill of Tarino.

He said that his command sent in some cash every day to buy medicines that cost at least P1,000 every day.

"I was told to list everything that he (Tarino) needed and inform the command," said Alada, adding that he has been keeping the receipts of the drugs that the Army buys.

Alada said that Tarino was brought to WVMC after receiving an initial treatment in Dumarao District Hospital. The Feb. 25 clash also resulted in the death of one "Ka Bansot" and left an Army soldier, Charlie Palomado, from the 33rd Reconnaissance Group, wounded.

Jonnie Dabuco, a lawyer from the regional office of the Commission of Human Rights, said that it should be the government, not the Army, who should foot the hospital bills of Tarino. Dabuco tried to see Tarino but was refused entry by Alada and two other Army soldiers guarding the door of the hospital's intensive care unit.

No visitors

Human rights lawyer Janne Baterna said he would regularly check on Tarino's progress so that he can be given legal help if cases would be filed against him.

Human right groups, accompanied by Fermin, went to see Tarino, who was not allowed to receive visitors, except the soldiers and his mother, Federica, who came all the way from Ilog town in Negros Occidental.

Fermin assured Celiz and his group that the hospital would provide "fair" treatment to Tarino as it does to all patients regardless of ideology and position in life.

But Fermin admitted that the hospital might not be able to provide all the drugs prescribed by Tarino's doctors. "But I can assure you that we will try to provide medicines that are available in the hospital," he said.

Fermin said that the over-all security matter in the hospital was being left to the Army, which has Tarino in their hands. "We're only in charge of the treatment. (In) other aspects (of Tarino's capture, like) the ideological (issues), I'm outside of it," he said.

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INQUIRER*Mindanao*

Editor Jun Bandayrel
Bureau Chief Nico A. Alconaba

Isla Suerte: The island of the lucky

By Anthony S. Allada
Davao City

THE AREA is only about five kilometers from the city's downtown area, and is populated by some 3,000 households or 11,000 urban poor individuals who settled there for the past 25 years.

But residents of Sitio Isla Suerte (Island of Luck), covering some 60 hectares of Barangay 76-A, lived without light until the second week of January when electric power was finally installed by the Davao Light and Power Company (DLPC).

Leonardo Guerrero Sr., 64, still remembers the time when the land where his house is now standing was still part of the sea.

Guerrero was nine years old when his family moved to Sitio Kabacan, also a part of Barangay 76-A, a few kilometers away from Isla Suerte. His family had to till a cornfield in the area to have food to eat.

From sea to forest

By the 1980s, Isla Suerte, due to the sea's movement, was formed. At this time, Guerrero's family and other residents of Kabacan were ordered to leave as the construction of a subdivision started.

They resettled to Isla Suerte.

But it was not the end of the settlers' nightmare because the subdivision's developer, the Consunji family, wanted them out of Isla Suerte.

The Consunjis claimed that the place was still part of the Ecoland Subdivision and that no resettlement or development should be done in the place.

But the settlers gained enough courage to oppose any plan of demolition and vowed to fight back. They believed Isla Suerte was already a public land since it was a coastal area, as it was once a part of the sea.

The Consunjis, obviously not happy with the resistance, put up checkpoints to entry points to Isla Suerte so that every person going there could not enter. Others who wanted to avoid the checkpoint used the sea to go to Isla Suerte.

Despite this, resettlement continued in the area until such time that electricity was needed.

Electrification project

Barangay Chair Robert Olan-Olan said he was still a barangay councilor in 1983 when the plan for Isla Suerte's electrification was conceived.

But he said the project did not materialize because the Consunjis blocked it.

With this, residents had to use candles and lamps during nighttime. But some, especially those who had acquired appliances like television sets, found other alternatives and "illegally" tapped electricity from the neighboring Times Beach and Bucana areas.

The DLPC knew about it but tolerated it out of humanitarian considerations.

Eliseo Braganza, DLPC's legal counsel, said the company knew the residents were poor and it would be too harsh to cut the illegal connections.

"We had to close our eyes as we knew the situation there," he said.

A blessing

In the late 1990s, the Consunjis brought to court their fight against the settlers, and sought a court order to demolish all houses in Isla Suerte.

The barangay council and the settlers' association, however, argued that the area was a public land.

Settlers said they came to call their area the island of luck (Isla Suerte) because it has been their refuge, some kind of a blessing from God.

After 10 years of legal battle, Judge Renato Fuentes of the Regional Trial Court Branch 17 issued an order classifying Isla Suerte a public land.

With this, Olan-Olan called up the attention of Davao City First District Rep. Prospero Nograles to assist them in the electrification project.

Nograles immediately acted on the request and approached DLPC president Alfonso Aboitiz.

"I sat down with Aboitiz so that we can implement the project together," he said.

He also asked Mayor Rodrigo Duterte to provide sodium lights for electric posts and to rehabilitate the road.

Nograles said the entire electrification project amounted to P3.5 million, fully subsidized by the DLPC.

The installation of the 15 electric posts, sodium lights, and other facilities started early in November and was completed early in January.

On January 15, residents witnessed the ceremonial switching of the newly-installed electric facility with Nograles, Duterte, Aboitiz, Vice Mayor Luis Bonguyan, and other officials in attendance.

More blessings

Residents have more reasons to be happy as government projects have poured in.

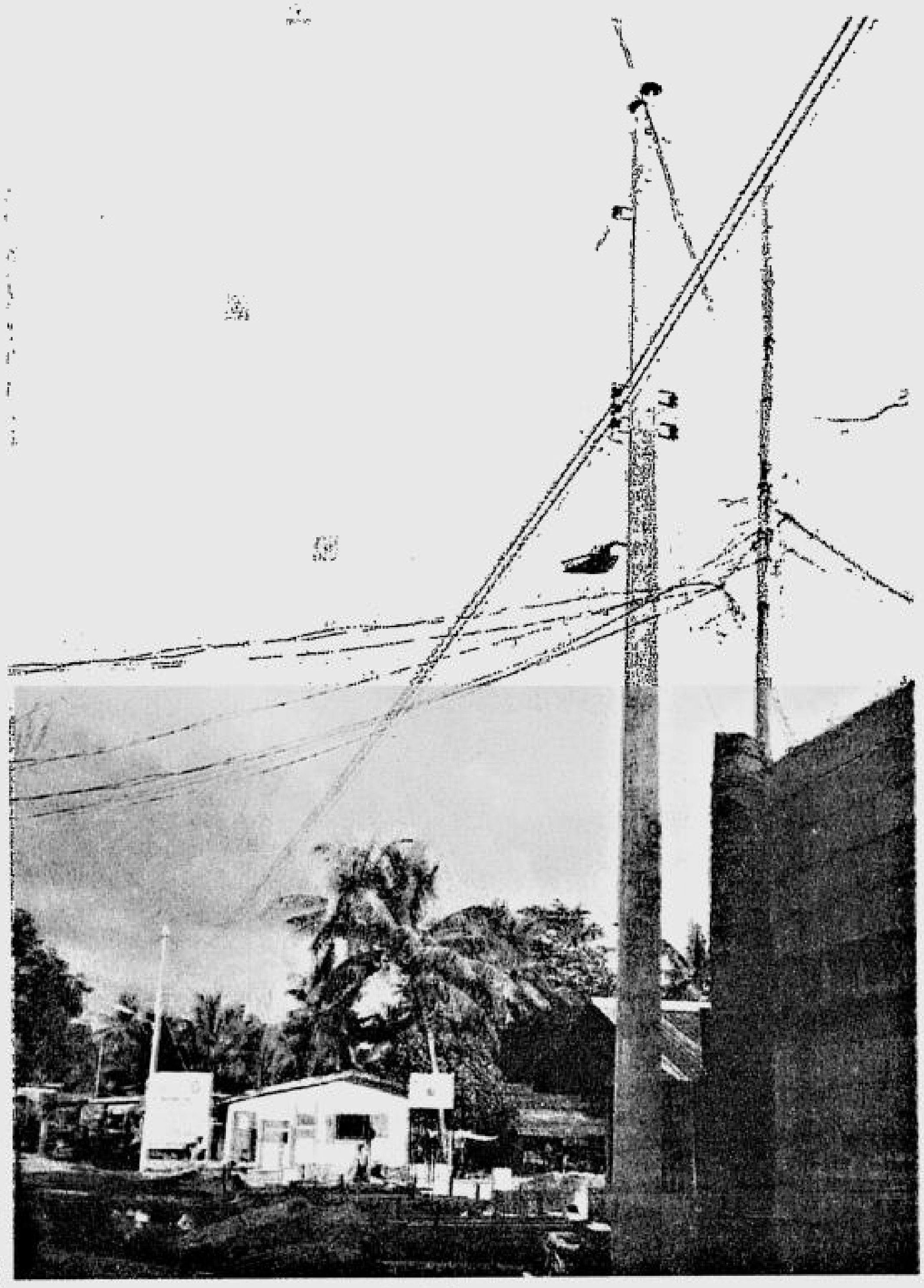
After the lights, a gymnasium and a basketball court are being constructed at the sitio proper.

Olan-Olan said they were also set to tap the services of the Davao City Water District to install water facilities.

Nograles is also eyeing a community mortgage project for Isla Suerte so it can benefit from the program of the National Housing Authority.

Nograles, who is the current chair of the House committee on housing, said residents would be paying the government in 25 years to own the land they are occupying.

But he said he has yet to work for the titling of Isla Suerte so that the residents could own it legally.



ELECTRIC posts rise in Isla Suerte, a sign of good things to come.

ANTHONY ALLADA/PDI MINDANAO BUREAU

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Mandanawi, land of peace, comes to life in stage play

By Marrio R. R. Mapanao
Midsayap, North Cotabato

THE PEOPLE'S theatre presentation, "Mandanawi: Land of Peace," highlighted the opening of the "Options for Peace in Mindanao" conference, hosted by the Southern Christian College (SCC) in Midsayap, North Cotabato, on Feb. 9-11.

As a concept, Mandanawi, meaning "Land of Peace," was introduced in one of the writings of lawyer Michael O. Mastura, former delegate to the Constitutional Convention of 1972 and an active participant in the current peace process, being part of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) negotiating panel.

Staged amidst the muddy outdoor lawn of the Balay Kalinaw under rain-threatened skies, the cultural action for peace musicale is the initial offering of the Teatro Mandanawi of SCC, organized only last July 2003. Conceived and mounted starting September 16, the first public presentation was on November 12 at the SCC Civic Center before the immediate school community.

With a cast of 47, the theatre production is composed of 34 college and ten high school students, two faculty members and an alumnus. The music pool has 10 members: four faculty members and staffers, two college students and one representative from the community.

Coordinating the production is the SCC-Cultural Heritage Director Victoria Bat-og.

Story line

Running for an hour and 30 minutes, Mandanawi, whose script was written by Palanca playwright awardee Arnel Mardoquio of Davao City, tells the story of Manobo academician Philip Degunen (played by Omar Dabon), whose dissertation proposal was rejected as armchair scholarship.

As he was preparing his second draft, his caretaker Saling (in the person of Perlita Gusto, also assistant director), informs him of the peasant uprising on his ancestral land in Cotabato.

Torn between his academic proposal and settling matters back home, he decides to go back with the intention of placating the peasants.

The inevitable happens. Professor Dagunen is shown by the spirits how his ancestors conspired with the Spanish *conquistadores* and American invaders to acquire and secure the extensive tract of land for quite a period of time. Through the government-supported land settlement program, the migration of Christian settlers is likewise depicted into Maguindanaoan, Muslim and lumad territories.

The play then concludes with Saling's recollection of a place called Mandanawi—a haven of abundance, freedom and peace, and her wish that the ancestral land of the indigenous peoples be transformed into a land of peace, into another Mandanawi.

Mobile Theatre

Teatro Mandanawi, since its school premiere has since gone mobile, started performing before three partner barangays of SCC in 2003. The group also performed at the municipal gym during the 67th Midsayap Foundation Anniversary on November 18.

So far in 2004, Mandanawi has been staged during the Midsayap Halad *sa* Sto. Nino Festival on January 12 at the Municipal Plaza, and upon invitation of the municipality of Banisilan, on February 7 at the municipal basketball court grounds.

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E-mail: pr_provincial_news@inquirer.com.ph

INQUIRER Mindanao

Editor Jun Bandayrel
Bureau Chief Nico A. Alconaba

Isla Suerte: The island of the lucky

By Anthony S. Allada
Davao City

THE AREA is only about five kilometers from the city's downtown area, and is populated by some 3,000 households or 11,000 urban poor individuals who settled there for the past 25 years.

But residents of Sitio Isla Suerte (Island of Luck), covering some 60 hectares of Barangay 76-A, lived without light until the second week of January when electric power was finally installed by the Davao Light and Power Company (DLPC).

Leonardo Guerrero Sr., 64, still remembers the time when the land where his house is now standing was still part of the sea.

Guerrero was nine years old when his family moved to Sitio Kabacan, also a part of Barangay 76-A, a few kilometers away from Isla Suerte. His family had to till a cornfield in the area to have food to eat.

From sea to forest

By the 1980s, Isla Suerte, due to the sea's movement, was formed. At this time, Guerrero's family and other residents of Kabacan were ordered to leave as the construction of a subdivision started.

They resettled to Isla Suerte.

But it was not the end of the settlers' nightmare because the subdivision's developer, the Consunji family, wanted them out of Isla Suerte.

The Consunjis claimed that the place was still part of the Ecoland Subdivision and that no resettlement or development should be done in the place.

But the settlers gained enough courage to oppose any plan of demolition and vowed to fight back. They believed Isla Suerte was already a public land since it was a coastal area, as it was once a part of the sea.

The Consunjis, obviously not happy with the resistance, put up checkpoints to entry points to Isla Suerte so that every person going there could not enter. Others who wanted to avoid the checkpoint used the sea to go to Isla Suerte.

Despite this, resettlement continued in the area until such time that electricity was needed.

Electrification project

Barangay Chair Robert Olan-Olan said he was still a barangay councilor in 1983 when the plan for Isla Suerte's electrification was conceived.

But he said the project did not materialize because the Consunjis blocked it.

With this, residents had to use candles and lamps during nighttime. But some, especially those who had acquired appliances like television sets, found other alternatives and "illegally" tapped electricity from the neighboring Times Beach and Bucana areas.

The DLPC knew about it but tolerated it out of humanitarian considerations.

Eliseo Braganza, DLPC's legal counsel, said the company knew the residents were poor and it would be too harsh to cut the illegal connections.

"We had to close our eyes as we knew the situation there," he said.

A blessing

In the late 1990s, the Consunjis brought to court their fight against the settlers, and sought a court order to demolish all houses in Isla Suerte.

The barangay council and the settlers' association, however, argued that the area was a public land.

Settlers said they came to call their area the island of luck (Isla Suerte) because it has been their refuge, some kind of a blessing from God.

After 10 years of legal battle, Judge Renato Fuentes of the Regional Trial Court Branch 17 issued an order classifying Isla Suerte a public land.

With this, Olan-Olan called up the attention of Davao City First District Rep. Prospero Nograles to assist them in the electrification project.

Nograles immediately acted on the request and approached DLPC president Alfonso Aboitiz.

"I sat down with Aboitiz so that we can implement the project together," he said.

He also asked Mayor Rodrigo Duterte to provide sodium lights for electric posts and to rehabilitate the road.

Nograles said the entire electrification project amounted to P3.5 million, fully subsidized by the DLPC.

The installation of the 15 electric posts, sodium lights, and other facilities started early in November and was completed early in January.

On January 15, residents witnessed the ceremonial switching of the newly-installed electric facility with Nograles, Duterte, Aboitiz, Vice Mayor Luis Bonguyan, and other officials in attendance.

More blessings

Residents have more reasons to be happy as government projects have poured in.

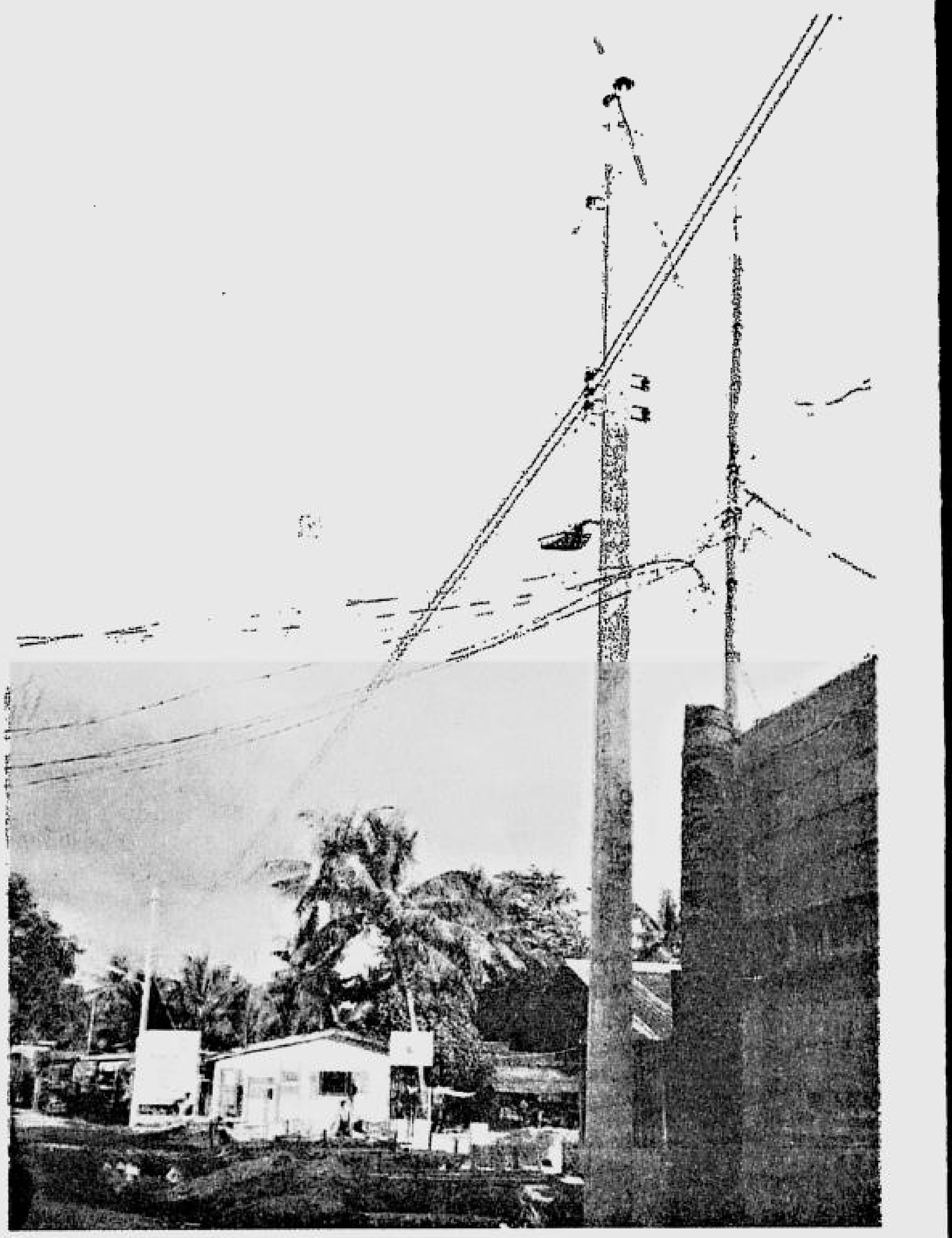
After the lights, a gymnasium and a basketball court are being constructed at the sitio proper.

Olan-Olan said they were also set to tap the services of the Davao City Water District to install water facilities.

Nograles is also eyeing a community mortgage project for Isla Suerte so it can benefit from the program of the National Housing Authority.

Nograles, who is the current chair of the House committee on housing, said residents would be paying the government in 25 years to own the land they are occupying.

But he said he has yet to work for the titling of Isla Suerte so that the residents could own it legally.



ELECTRIC posts rise in Isla Suerte, a sign of good things to come.

ANTHONY ALLADA/PDI MINDANAO BUREAU

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Mandanawi, land of peace, comes to life in stage play

By Marrio R. R. Mapanao
Midsayap, North Cotabato

THE PEOPLE'S theatre presentation, "Mandanawi: Land of Peace," highlighted the opening of the "Options for Peace in Mindanao" conference, hosted by the Southern Christian College (SCC) in Midsayap, North Cotabato, on Feb. 9-11.

As a concept, Mandanawi, meaning "Land of Peace," was introduced in one of the writings of lawyer Michael O. Mastura, former delegate to the Constitutional Convention of 1972 and an active participant in the current peace process, being part of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) negotiating panel.

Staged amidst the muddy outdoor lawn of the Balay Kalinaw under rain-threatened skies, the cultural action for peace musicale is the initial offering of the Teatro Mandanawi of SCC, organized only last July 2003. Conceived and mounted starting September 16, the first public presentation was on November 12 at the SCC Civic Center before the immediate school community.

With a cast of 47, the theatre production is composed of 34 college and ten high school students, two faculty members and an alumnus. The music pool has 10 members: four faculty members and staffers, two college students and one representative from the community.

Coordinating the production is the SCC-Cultural Heritage Director Victoria Bat-og.

Story line

Running for an hour and 30 minutes, Mandanawi, whose script was written by Palanca playwright awardee Arnel Mardoquio of Davao City, tells the story of Manobo academician Philip Degunen (played by Omar Dabon), whose dissertation proposal was rejected as armchair scholarship.

As he was preparing his second draft, his caretaker Saling (in the person of Perlita Gusto, also assistant director), informs him of the peasant uprising on his ancestral land in Cotabato.

Torn between his academic proposal and settling matters back home, he decides to go back with the intention of placating the peasants.

The inevitable happens. Professor Dagunen is shown by the spirits how his ancestors conspired with the Spanish *conquistadores* and American invaders to acquire and secure the extensive tract of land for quite a period of time. Through the government-supported land settlement program, the migration of Christian settlers is likewise depicted into Maguindanaoan, Muslim and lumad territories.

The play then concludes with Saling's recollection of a place called Mandanawi—a haven of abundance, freedom and peace, and her wish that the ancestral land of the indigenous peoples be transformed into a land of peace, into another Mandanawi.

Mobile Theatre

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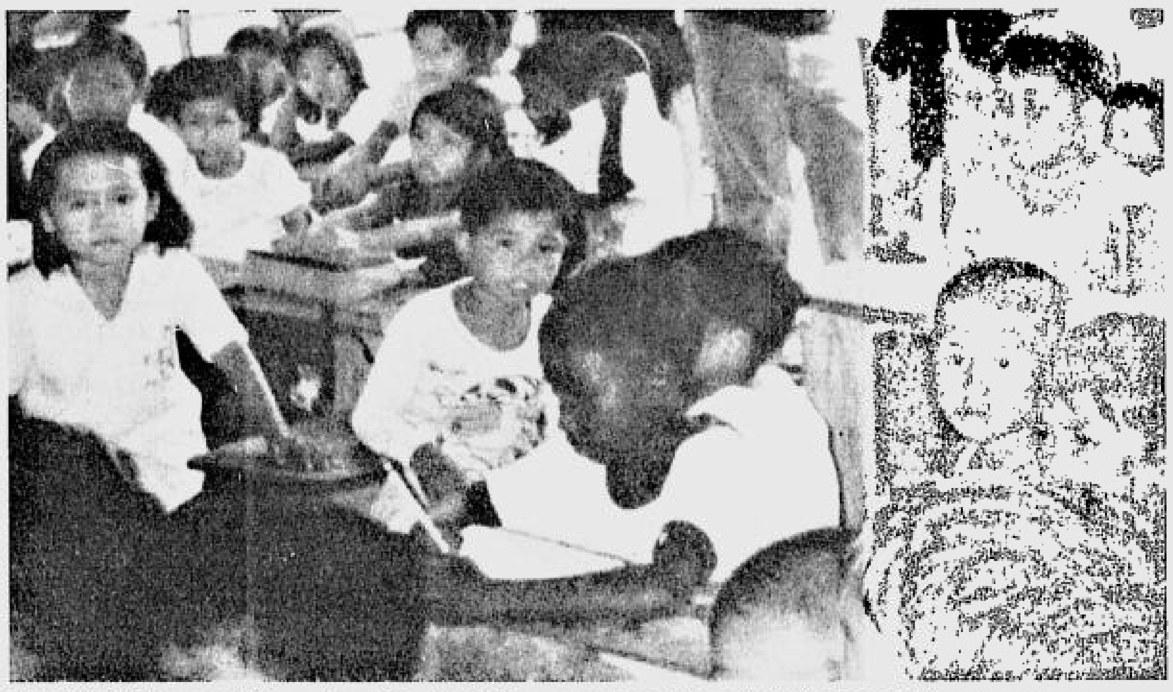
ADOPT-A-SCHOOL pioneer Ramon Sy, iBank president/CEO, is flanked by (left) Dr. Butchie Lim-Ayuyao, FWWPP president, and Eugenia Duran-Apostol, FWWPP board chair.



MARANAS Primary and Elementary School, which has a number of Aeta students, is an adopted school of the Organization for Industrial, Spiritual and Cultural Advancement in Negros Occidental.

Education Revolution: Reviving dying spirit of Edsa

From page A1

transformation rather than just listless purveyors of ABCs and 123s. The FWWPP's Mentoring the Mentors Program is designed to do exactly this: challenge the teachers to bring back the nurturing dimension of teaching.

Agents of transformation

This year, we are calling on individuals, community groups and the private sector as a whole to help us replicate the Mentoring the Mentors program nationwide. This will really make the Education Revolution soar.

Education is the only viable long term—and lasting—solution to poverty. The quality of education a child gets directly relates to opportunities that will open up for him later in life.

Equally important, the values he learns from his teachers at school—and his family at home—directly affects how he conducts himself as an individual and as a Filipino citizen.

This is why the Education Revolution means more than just building classrooms, or distributing books, or donating school supplies for the 18 million or so students currently enrolled in our public schools today.

It is helping ensure that future generations of Filipinos will mature into individuals steeped in the principles of democracy and nationhood through our concerted efforts today.

Adopt a school

Just last Wednesday, Cory Aquino told me that she was in Negros Occidental where she met with students eager to know how to help their schools. She told these young people about Adopt-A-School, one of our Education Revolution programs which urges communities to find ways to redirect resources towards uplifting the quality of education in their public schools.

Cory should be pleased to know that People Power is alive and well in Negros Occidental. Since last year, several private citizen groups have joined the Education Revolution.

The Sagay Ladies Circle and the Sagay Sigay Jaycees and the Cadiz Whales Jaycees have adopted more than eight schools in their area among themselves.

Top volunteers

Also in Negros Occidental, the Organization for Industrial, Spiritual and Cultural Advancement (OISCA) has adopted the Manaras Primary and Elementary School, where a number of pupils are Aeta children.

OISCA volunteers recently distributed school supplies and bags to the Manaras pupils and organized a joint community-school reforestation project.

OISCA will expand its school adoption efforts in the coming months to reach more public schools and gather more volunteers.

iBank

Recently, Dr. Butchie Lim Ayuyao, the FWWPP president and I called on International Exchange Bank president Mr. Ramon Sy to talk about involving the International Exchange Bank in the Education Revolution.

To our pleasant surprise, we learned that Mr. Sy had already pioneered the adopt-a-school concept in the '80s when he was at the helm of Cocobank. Mr. Sy related that back then he innovatively incorporated adopt-a-school into his bank's corporate social responsibility program. They were able to help 30 or so public schools on a continuing basis, Mr. Sy said. Even at that time, Mr. Sy believed that education is the best weapon against poverty.

Now that he's at iBank, Mr. Sy still feels the same way. With the help of the FWWPP, iBank is preparing a pilot school adoption project that will hopefully grow into a full-blown corporate social responsibility program. With Mr. Sy's pioneering experience in adopt-a-school, success seems most assured.

No 'gimmicks'

In Angeles City, college students of the Angeles University Foundation have been volunteering their free time for the Education Revolution instead of going out on gimmicks.

Students from the College of Medicine, Nursing and Allied Medical Professions have been regularly visiting the Dr. Clemente Dayrit Elementary School to conduct eye check-ups and talk about good hygiene habits with the pupils.

Another group of young men and women, this time from the College of Computer Studies, have been helping the public school teachers improve their computer literacy at the newly installed Center for Computer Literacy also at the Dr. Clemente Dayrit ES.

Dr. Anne Marie Concepcion of the AUF Office for Community Extension Services (OCES) said that Dayrit ES is just one of three elementary schools that the AUF has adopted for 2004. The other two are Pandan Elementary School and Salapungan Elementary School.

The OCES is responsible for organizing community groups and student volunteers to implement the different components of their school adoption programs.

Language proficiency

Aside from the health check-ups and computer literacy projects, Dr. Concepcion said that other student volunteers together with their professors are regularly conducting language proficiency seminars for the public school teachers in their adopted schools. Likewise, community volunteers have started a botanical garden in each of the three schools and refurbished or solicited playground equipment.

Concepcion also said that they intend to launch a school-feeding program very soon.

Dispel darkness

These examples that I've cited are not isolated instances. All over the country, private individuals and groups have taken it upon themselves to light the candle of education to dispel the darkness that lack of knowledge brings.

Through the Education Revolution, all our officers and trustees—namely Atty. Fely Arroyo, Dr. Jose Abueva, Mr. Delfin Lazaro, Dr. Panfilo Domingo, Mr. Amando Doronila and trustee-on-leave Edilberto de Jesus—have remained strong in our conviction that People Power remains a potent force for genuine social change.

'Da Rock' says he . . .

From page A1

Education Secretary Raul Roco said he not only had acted and been involved in making movies, the films he produced won awards both here and abroad.

"Can FPJ do that?" Roco said in jest during a briefing in Tanuan, Batangas, where his Alyansa ng Pag-asa team was campaigning on Thursday.

"The Rock is ready," was Roco's riposte to Enrile's challenge to Poe's rivals: Poe may not be skilled in the art of debating but can they make a movie?

The Poe campaign has been at pains to explain why the opposition standard-bearer refuses to accept Roco's challenge to a debate with the other presidential candidates, advancing such reasons as Poe's lack of time, debates were unnecessary, dialogues with the people were preferable and other lame excuses.

It was Enrile who came up with the unique challenge the other day, comparing the job of steering the nation to directing a movie: "You must know what you're intending to do, visualizing all the way to the end."

Roco recalled that he appeared briefly in a movie about the activist life of Roberto Pagdanganan, the recently appointed tourism secretary.

'Forgettable'

He said he played the martyred Benigno "Ninoy" Aquino in a scene portraying the few minutes before Aquino was assassinated at the Manila International Airport in August 1983.

"I was just forced to appear in the movie by [director] Carlo J. Caparas. It took only five minutes. When I got off the plane, I was shot and killed. That was the end of my role," said a smiling Roco.

After that forgettable stint in movie acting, Roco went on to produce at least five movies, some of which won local and foreign acting and filmmaking honors.

The films include "Tinimbang Ka Ngunit Kulang," which won 11 out of 14 Famas awards; "Tatlo, Dalawa, Isa," which took three Famas awards; and "Insiang" which won in the Asian movie category at the Cannes International Film Festival.

Roco recalled that he also co-produced "Lunes, Martes, Miyerkules, Huwebes, Biyernes, Sabado," a film about women in Olongapo which won four Famas awards.

He next produced "Mortal," a film about a husband who killed his wife in a fit of jealousy.

Roco recalled his experience with the movie as being memorable because the producers were sued for libel after they failed to hide the husband's identity. Roco said they settled with the complainant, and he stopped producing movies after that.

Lino Brocka

The former senator said he was exposed to the world of movies after meeting the late multi-awarded director Lino Brocka, a co-delegate to the 1971 Constitutional Convention.

After martial law was declared in 1972, he and Brocka with several partners set up Cine Manila to produce movies.

Congressional allies of President Macapagal-Arroyo described Enrile's challenge to the other presidential candidates to match Poe's movie-making abilities as "stupid."

Antique Rep. Exequiel Javier said that Poe and his handlers should realize that the presidency was different from movie acting or directing.

"The President leads the country, she doesn't make movies. Poe stars in movies. He should stick with the movies," Javier said.

'Window into the brain'

Bulacan Rep. Willie Villarama said the opposition Koalisyon ng Nagkakaisang Pilipino should think of the nation's welfare instead of pushing a presidential candidate like Poe whose only experience was movie-making.

"Poe's rivals should not be asked if they can make a movie because they are not running for the position of movie actor. It is Poe who is running for the highest position of the land, hence it is only proper to ask: Does he know how to govern? And a debate will answer the question," he said.

Villarama pointed out that advanced democratic countries use debates as a mode of measuring the capabilities of candidates and a "window into the brains of candidates," although it may not be the perfect gauge of one's ability to govern.

"Poe has the brains for directing and acting. He has numerous Famas awards to show for these. But people want to know if he has the brains to govern, being a contender for the presidency," he said. *With a report from Cynthia D. Balana*

Sandra Burton, Pinoys' true friend, found dead

From page A1

"She was relentless as a reporter," AP quoted Barry Hillenbrand, a friend and former Time correspondent, as saying of Burton. "She was always going out after another interview ... People loved talking to Sandy."

Ninoy

When she heard that Aquino was returning home from exile to join the opposition in 1983, Burton recommended to her Time editors in New York that she accompany him on the flight from the United States to the Philippines.

As it turned out, other correspondents joined Aquino, with Burton connecting with the group in the flight from Taipei to Manila on Aug. 21.

Aquino was assassinated moments after being escorted off the plane by government soldiers.

Burton presented her tape recording of the fatal shots fired on the airport tarmac to the Agrava Commission which investigated the Aquino murder.

The Council on Foreign Relations awarded Burton the Edward R. Murrow Fellowship in 1986, during which she wrote the much-acclaimed book, "The Marcoses, The Aquinos and the Unfinished Revolution: Impossible Dream." The book, she said, was meant to "show what a uniquely free-spirited place the Philippines is."

Wielding her enormous influence, of which she hardly seemed aware, she was instrumental in President Corazon Aquino's being named Time Woman of the Year in 1986.

Beijing

Burton was Time's Beijing bureau chief starting in 1988, and became a trusted confidante of political leaders in the opposition in a number of Asian countries.

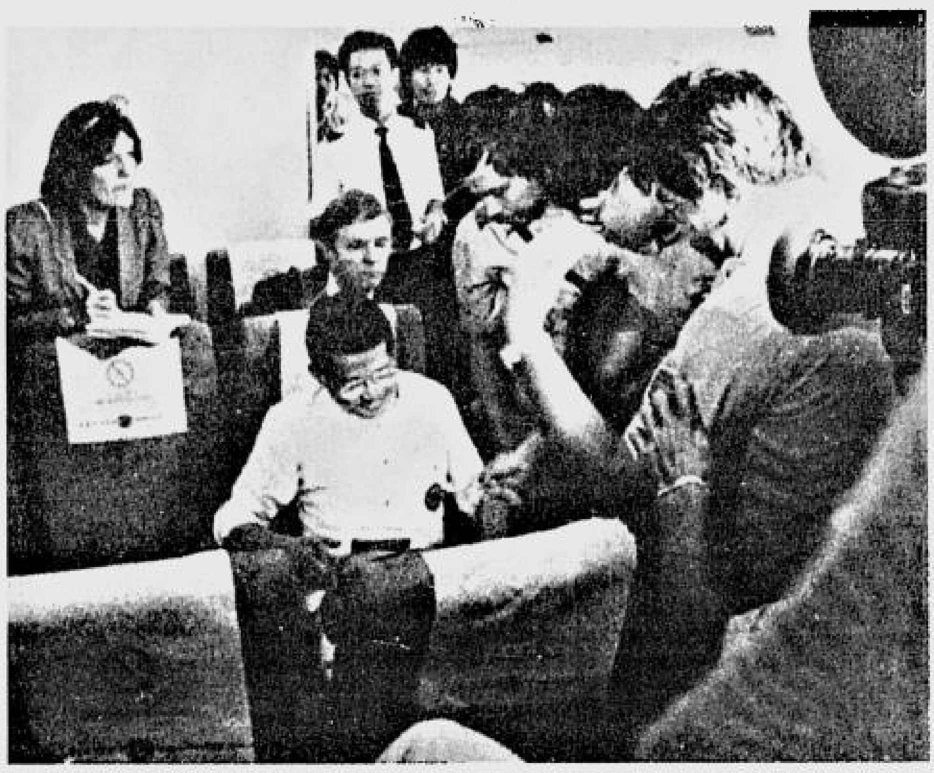
Aung San Suu Kyi, icon of the Burmese resistance, was a close friend of hers.

Tiananmen Square

Burton's unerring timing found her alone on the prowl after midnight on June 4, 1989, at Tiananmen Square in Beijing, where thousands of students had camped to protest government repression.

When the first shots aimed directly at the demonstrators rang out, she ducked behind a concrete pillar—much as she had done countless times at Mendiola in Manila and elsewhere—to record what came to be known as the "Tiananmen Massacre."

Burton subsequently helped organize the escape from Beijing to the United States and Europe of scores of Chinese student leaders being hunted by government forces.



PDI PHOTO

AUG. 21, 1983: Relentless newshound Sandra Burton is on board the China Airlines plane with Ninoy Aquino, the Filipino with whom, she said, she closely identified.

She herself sheltered a few students until they were safely on their way out.

In later years, Burton was instrumental in the appointment of a Filipino journalist, Jaime Flor Cruz, as her successor in Time's Beijing bureau.

Letters to Pinoy friends

Burton left the staff of Time several years ago but continued to work for the magazine on a freelance basis. At the time of her death she was writing a book on the 1850s rajah, James Brooke of Sarawak.

In Bali, she made a string of friends from the rich and famous to the man on the street. A Filipina friend recently visited her there, to her delight.

The friend returned to Manila bearing Burton's letters to her many close friends here, to re-connect and ask for their e-mail addresses.

She also wrote a letter to former Vice President Salvador "Doy" Laurel, who died last month in the United States, But it did not reach him in time. *With an AP report*

BALINESE ROOF SHAKES
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Doc-topnotcher leaves for US as nurse

From page A1

mand monthly salaries that could go into "six-digit figures" in Philippine pesos, he said.

A nurse in the US can even "work in two hospitals at the same time, three days at each hospital per week," he said.

By comparison, resident doctors in the Philippines can be on call 24 hours a day, especially in government hospitals, he noted.

Since nursing was his pre-med course at the Western Mindanao State University in Zamboanga City, Jacinto—who finished the course cum laude—said all he needed to take were eligibility and English-proficiency tests to bag the job in New York. He is waiting for the test results.

He applied for the job in April 2003, 10 months before the medical board exams were administered.

"Whether I passed the board or not, my application abroad was already in motion," Jacinto said in Filipino.

He said it was his former nursing classmates who persuaded him to join them in the US, "where they are now fully satisfied. They all say it's really worth it."

Parents retired teachers

He said his family in Lamitan was "not just allowing me to leave but are in fact encouraging me to work as a nurse."

His parents, Lucio and Teresita, are retired public school teachers. His younger brother and only sibling is a fireman.

Jacinto noted that in the neighborhood where he grew up, it was not unusual for families, mostly lowly coconut farmers, to send young sons and daughters abroad in hopes of easing their poverty.

"Almost all the brightest students in our village have taken up nursing, knowing the high demand [for it] abroad. Their families have become better off because of them," he said.

Jacinto believes his parents in supporting his decision were just being consistent.

"They have always allowed me to take every big opportunity, like the scholarships I got (from high school to med school)," he said.

Lucio was a math teacher who also ran the school library. Teresita taught English and Science.

The Jacintos live in a modest, two-story house in Barangay Malakas, a village that gets electricity "only about one day a week."

Reading

"They [his parents] introduced me to books and always reminded me to read, even though I would only have a gas lamp by which to study my lessons," said Jacinto.

They had no telephone, drew drinking water from an artesian well, and would receive the newspapers from Manila "one week late."

"But everyday I would read a volume of the Book of Knowledge at the school library" where he passed time with his father, he said.

In 1996, two years before he entered medical school, Jacinto worked for about seven months as a nurse at the Dr. Torres Memorial Hospital, where he met Yap. She was "Ate Debbie" to him and was among the first to encourage him to pursue medicine.

Describing himself at the time as an "idealistic nurse," he volunteered to work without pay for four months at the government-run Lamitan District Hospital where he would administer first aid to wounded soldiers.

He was already studying at Fatima when the Dr. Torres Memorial Hospital made it into the newspaper headlines as the site of the now controversial "Lamitan Siege."

On June 2, 2001, Abu Sayyaf bandits who were holed up at the hospital with 20 hostages abducted from the Dos Palmas Resort in Palawan staved off a military assault and managed to slip out of the building with four fresh hostages, including Jacinto's "Ate Debbie."

Lamitan has unfairly suffered from bad press ever since, he said.

"The truth is the Abu Sayyaf had never touched our town until that day. Just one single event ruined its reputation," Jacinto said.

But he remembers hearing stories as a child of violent clan wars erupting in the town. His grade school teachers would tell their pupils to stay inside the classroom whenever they heard gunshots from afar.

Writer

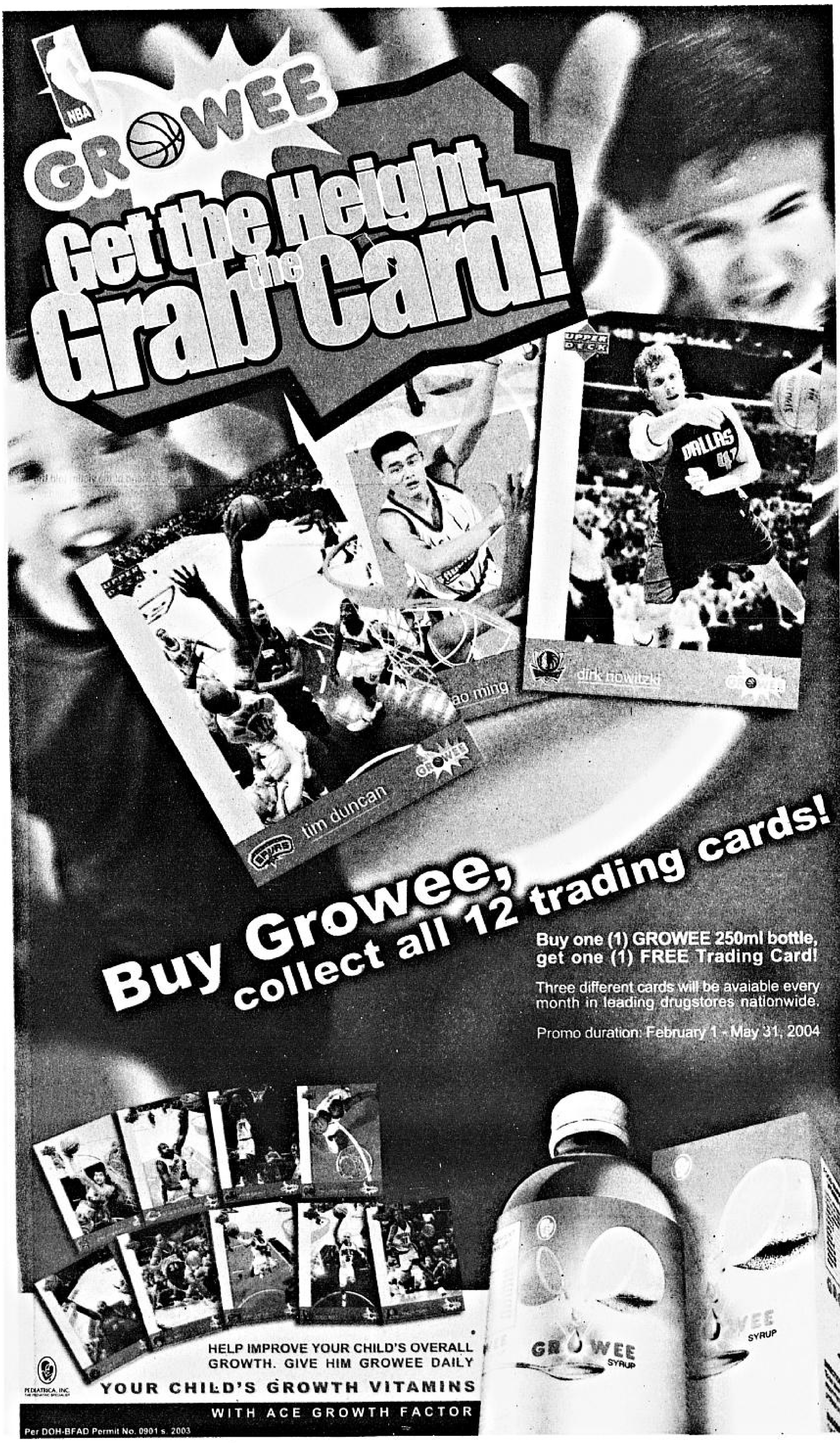
Jacinto, a wide reader who developed skills as a campus writer, transformed these boyhood experiences and Lamitan became a favorite subject in the idyllic poems that he wrote for the school paper.

The poems celebrated Lamitan's rustic environs which have remained unspoiled by the progress and technology that have transformed other towns, he said.

Jacinto believes he could very well have been a writer or a journalist had he not gone into nursing. He enjoys writing speeches, most of them pieces he himself delivered as an honor graduate. His literary idols include Carlos P. Romulo and Nick Joaquin.

But then his father, the same person who taught him to love books, pragmatically advised him that "there's no money in writing, that I could still write even while working as a nurse."

By being very candid about his plans to seek his fortune abroad, Jacinto is adding a fresh, disturbing chapter to the now familiar story of the migration of the country's best and brightest.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MV Fortune Express saves, feeds 559

From page A1

performed a miracle of sorts by managing to feed the survivors with its meager provisions on board.

The crew members cooked "lugaw" instead of steamed rice.

"The crew shared whatever they had—food, blanket, medicine," said teacher Maruja Gerongay of Medina, Misamis Oriental.

Maruja, her husband Nicolas and student Julius Camos had come from the National Secondary Schools' Press Conference in Sta. Cruz, Laguna, and were on their way home when SuperFerry 14 caught fire off Corregidor near the mouth of Manila Bay.

"It was funny because I saw that they had little food. They cooked 'lugaw' instead of steamed rice so more people could eat," she said.

The crew then distributed fried fish to the survivors.

"I was very touched by their gesture," Maruja added.

Survivors said the MV Fortune Express, which was sailing past El Fraile island toward Manila when SuperFerry 14 caught fire, took a big risk in rescuing the passengers.

Luz Santillan, a Misamis Oriental education official, said the cargo vessel had come next to the burning ship to enable passengers to jump directly over to safety.

Rizaldy Aisa of Cagayan de Oro City said some of the passengers who clung to ropes and crossed over to the cargo vessel suffered burns and blisters in their hands.

But most of those rescued were unscathed.

No selfish acts

Gerongay, who walks with a cane, said that throughout the rescue effort, she did not see a single act of selfishness.

Passengers first allowed the children to leave the burning boat, tossing them onto the cargo vessel when it was impossible to hand them over to waiting passengers on the other boat, she said.

The disabled and senior citizens came next.

"No one said, 'Me first.' Everybody helped," she said.

Nicolas, Gerongay's husband, had to push his wife to safety when she balked at letting go of the railing of the burning ship. Luckily, there were many on the other side to catch her when she fell.

Gerongay lost her nine-year-old Shih Tzu dog and a pair of lovebirds.

The dog, Miko, and the lovebirds had been placed in cages beside Gerongay's bed. But in the confusion she had to abandon them.

"I saw my dog looking at me one last time as I was leaving. I wanted to take him, but my husband said I could be crushed by other passengers," she said.

"He died. I know that," she added.

Comb

Most of the passengers only had their clothes on them when they were rescued. WG&A provided them with blankets, clothes and medicine as soon as they arrived at Pier 4.

The company also gave passengers P500 each, and billeted them in hotels in Manila.

Save for a red shoulder bag, Bella Lago, a regional education official, left her belongings, including her money, in the burning vessel. Inside the bag was what was left of her possessions, a comb.

SUERTRES
4 3 1
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E-mail: pr_metro@inquirer.com.ph
METRO
Editor Abelardo S. Ulanday

6/42 Luzon
1 4 20 28 40 42
Vis-Min
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Women's group blows whistle vs violence

PULL OUT now!
GABRIELA WOMEN'S PARTYLIST

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MetroBriefs

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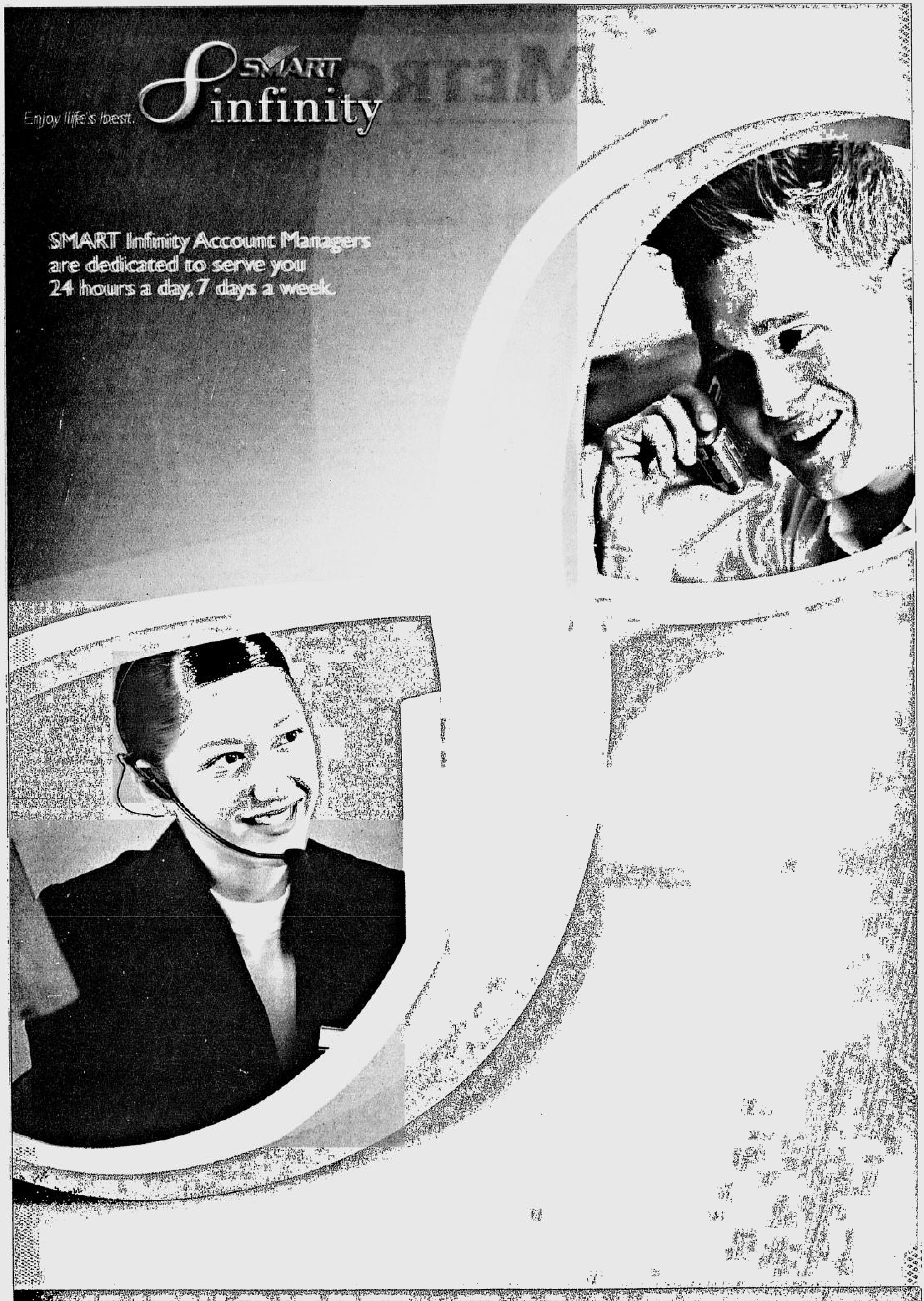
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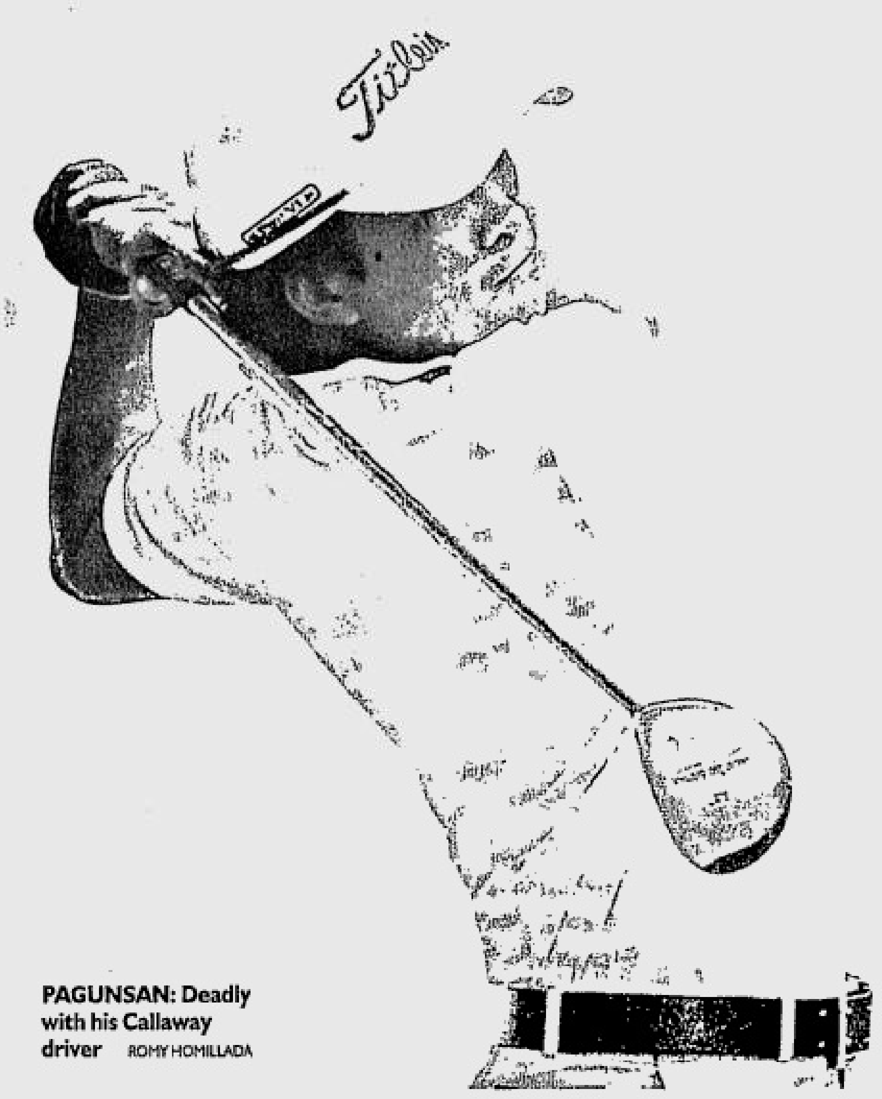
Pagunsan set to rewrite Open script

Pinoy amateur shares lead with Aussie



PAGUNSAN: Deadly with his Callaway driver ROMY HOMILLADA

By Jong Arcano

SILANG, Cavite—After being deserted by its highest seed and losing so many other local frontliners to the halfway cut, the 88th Philippine Open seemed to have found the best guy to rewrite the script.

Juvic Pagunsan, a celebrated amateur who wished he could have given his exempt slot to his teaching pro father, got the accuracy he needed from a borrowed driver in firing a 5-under-par 66 that sent him atop the leaderboard in the company of a resurgent Adam Broom of Australia with just one round to go.

And if things go right for the 25-year-old Pagunsan, the national team standout might turn out to be the savior this controversy-ridden Open is badly looking for following the unceremonious withdrawal of top local hope Frankie Miñoza.

Pagunsan one-putted five of his last six holes, in the process coming up with a mind-boggling birdie-birdie-birdie windup to become the only player so far to break par for two consecutive days at the wind-blown Langer course of Riviera.

He is now on the brink of creating history as the first amateur to win the Open in 37 years and only the second Filipino to pull off the feat. The last non-professional to achieve the feat was Taiwanese Hsu Sheng San, a year after the legendary Luis "Golem" Silverio stunned the field with a scintillating victory.

SINGH (left) and Broom wait for their turn on the fairway. ROMY HOMILLADA

"It (the tournament) isn't done yet, I can only hope for the best tomorrow," said Pagunsan, whose 1997 Southeast Asian Games individual gold medal in Jakarta stands as his biggest feat to date.

Lost in the din of Juvic's superb effort at the wind-blown course was a determined comeback by first-round leader Groom whose 71 enabled him to match the 211 aggregate of the Filipino amateur.

They were two shots ahead of Edward Michael of the United States, the only other player who broke par with his 69.

Sliding to third was Indian Jeev Milkha Singh, who fell back after an atrocious three-hole stretch from the ninth where he bogeyed twice and picked up a double-bogey.

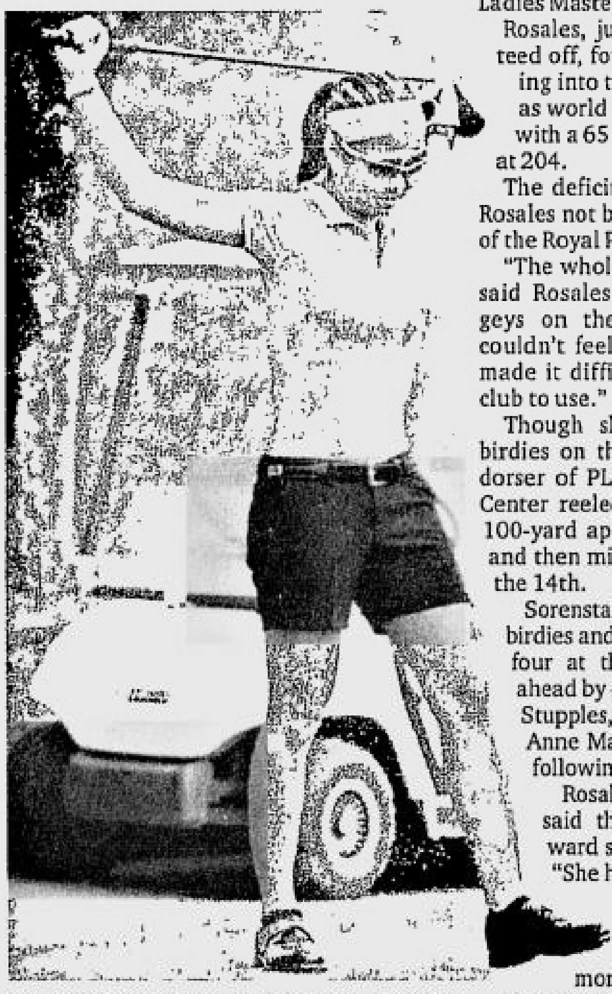
Antonio Lascuna kept himself in the hunt with his 73 putting him five adrift in a tie for seventh spot at 216 with Amandeep Johl.

Danny Zarate (74-219) was in a three-way tie for 11th at 219 and Angelo Que, his bid hurt by an errant drive on the 10th that led to a double bogey, joined defending champion Rick Gib-

PAGUNSAN/ A26

Jenny falls behind by 5 as Sorenstam sizzles

AS ANNIKA Sorenstam came out scorching to seize control, Jenny Rosales failed to sustain the momentum of a fiery 65 the previous round and needed a big finish to salvage an even par 72 yesterday in the third round of the $800,000 ANZ Australia Ladies Masters.



ROSALES: Hurt by two early bogeys ERIK ARAZAS

Rosales, just two off the lead when she teed off, found herself trailing by five going into the final round with a 209 total as world No. 1 Sorenstam also came up with a 65 that sent her soaring to the top at 204.

The deficit could have been bigger had Rosales not birdied the 15th and 17th holes of the Royal Pines Resort course.

"The whole game was a struggle today," said Rosales, who slipped with early bogeys on the fourth and fifth holes. "I couldn't feel my swing, the strong winds made it difficult for me to get the proper club to use."

Though she somehow recovered with birdies on the seventh and ninth, the endorser of PLDT Global and American Eye Center reeled back anew when she left a 100-yard approach way short for a bogey and then missed a five-foot putt for par on the 14th.

Sorenstam riddled the front nine with six birdies and stormed ahead after trailing by four at the halfway mark. She inched ahead by one stroke over England's Karen Stupples, who shot a 70, with Aussie Anne Marie Knight a close third at 206 following a 69.

Rosales' swing coach, Bong Lopez, said the early putting misses of his ward seem to have affected her focus: "She had good chances in the first few holes but missed them all which I think caused her to lose her rhythm. There's one more round to go, let's just hope she can come back."

Jong Arcano

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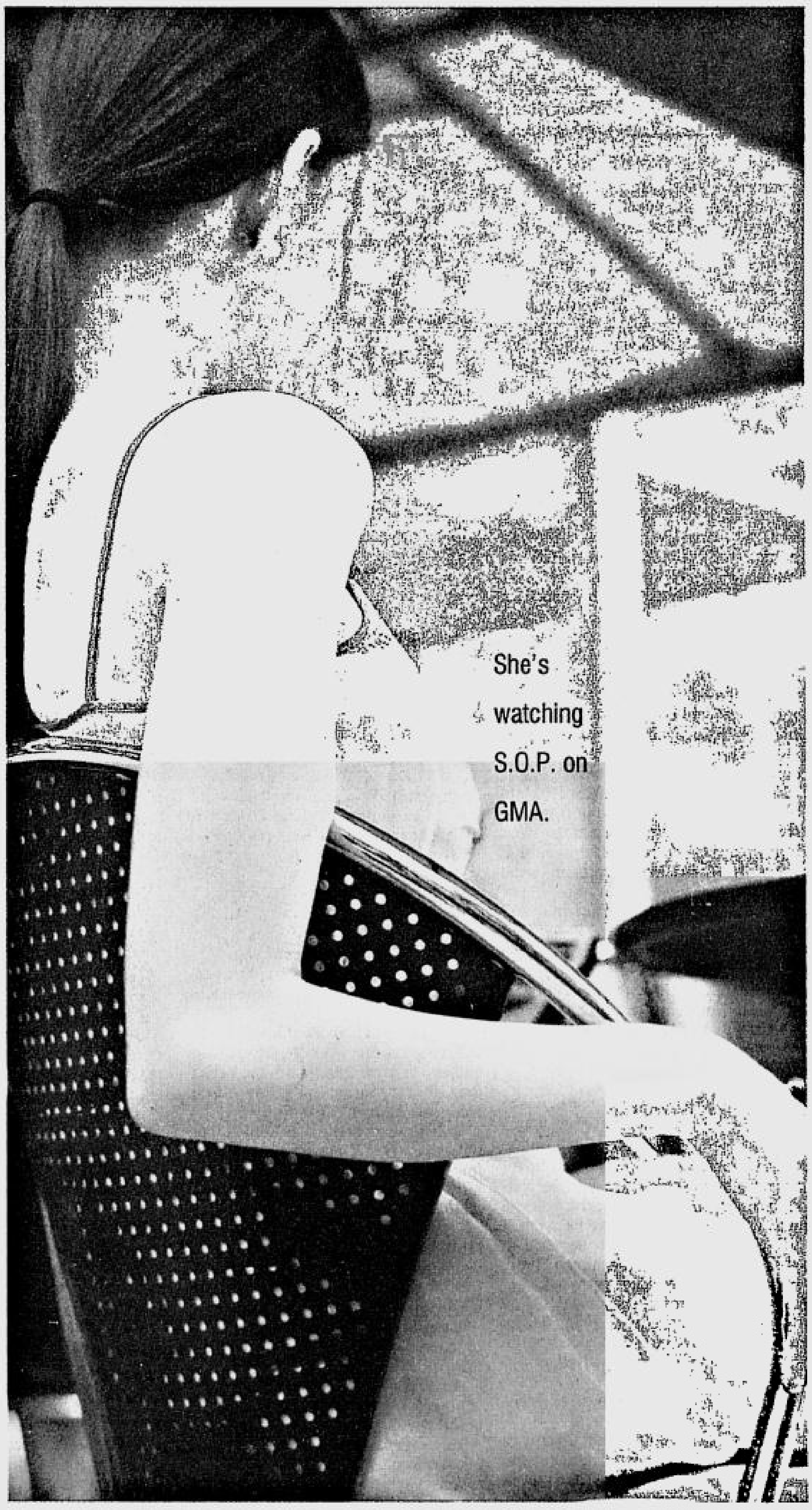


Luisita off to hot start; Camp Evangelista wins

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY—Luisita opened a 17-point lead over Wack Wack yesterday in an overpowering start to its bid for a record fifth straight senior title in the Philippine Airlines Interclub golf championship.

With Alex Montelibano scoring 54 points and senior debutante Francis Gaston matching the 52 points of Iggy Clavecilla, the Tarlac-based Luisitans amassed 250 points at the Del Monte course in Manolo Fortich, Bukidnon.

Wack Wack was second with 233 with Tommy Manotoc, who is also competing in the 55-and-above division for the first time, submitting 52 points.

Like many of the participants, Manotoc will also be playing in the men's tournament scheduled March 3-6 although he will be representing his old squad, Canlubang.

Alabang stood two points behind Wack Wack at 231 followed by Villamor (225) and Manila Southwoods (222).

The first of four division titles went to Camp Evangelista, which captured the Friendship crown by 23 points over Mactan Coral, 433-410. Brookside was third with 390.

Art Mar paced Camp Evangelista's final 215 output at Pueblo de Oro here with 47 points via the modified PAL scoring system that awards one point for a double bogey, two for bogey, three for par and four for birdie.

Aurelio Ponce de Leon backed up Mar with 46, Victor Arancon came up with 43, Raul Noble contributed 40 and Romy Sindac added 39 in the eight-player, five-to-count team event.

Crystal Springs and Eagle Ridge shot similar 213s to share the first-round lead in the Sportswriters Division. Bacolod scored 207 to take third, followed by Sienna Plantation 203 and Maharlika 202.

The Founders field is set to complete its schedule at Del Monte today.

The major sponsors are ABS-CBN Global, Airbus Industries, CNN International and GE Aircraft Engines, Golden Nugget Hotel Las Vegas, Johnnie Walker, Manila Broadcasting Corp., Radio Mindanao Network, Royal Caribbean International and UMBN.

Joey 92.3, 96.3 WRock, PLDT and 105.1 Crossover are the corporate backers while Asia Brewery Inc., Boeing, Boysen Pacific Paint, Century Park Hotel, INQ7.net, Jam 88.3, Tanduay Rhum and www.philstar.com are the minor supporters.

Mactan Coral combined for 196 also at par 72, 5,813-yard Pueblo de Oro layout to go with their earlier 214 effort at Del Monte to settle for second place with 410.

Rodante Joya, a retired Air Force general, scored 43 points for Mactan Coral Golf Club, the only public course in Cebu.

Other scorers were Romeo Alegre with 41, Edgar Pacubas 38 and Maj. Gen. Ramon Ragasa, who heads the PAF tactical operations command, and Pete Cantillas with 37 apiece.

A total of 560 players from a record field of 70 teams are competing in the 36-hole event spread over three rounds.

They are looking forward to the traditional awards ceremony tomorrow night since the lucky raffle winner will receive a luxury package tour for two with a four-night stay at the Golden Nugget Hotel in Las Vegas worth $12,000 (roughly P672,000).

Tiger, Phil barrel into quarterfinals

CARLSBAD, California—Tiger Woods and Phil Mickelson made short work of a long day at the Match Play Championship, both needing only 28 holes to win two matches on Friday and reach the quarterfinals.

Woods, who narrowly survived the first round, never trailed in both matches and never even made it to the 15th tee except for post-match interviews.

He jumped out to a big lead against Trevor Immelman of South Africa in the second round, then steadied himself amid the wild adventures of Sweden's Fredrik Jacobson, winning both matches, 5 and 4.

Woods set a tournament record by winning his ninth straight match. Next up is Padraig Harrington of Ireland, who outlasted David Toms in 18 holes.

"For someone to make it through three matches, they're probably playing pretty good," Woods said.

Equally impressive is Mickelson, whose length and accuracy has proven to be a tough combination.

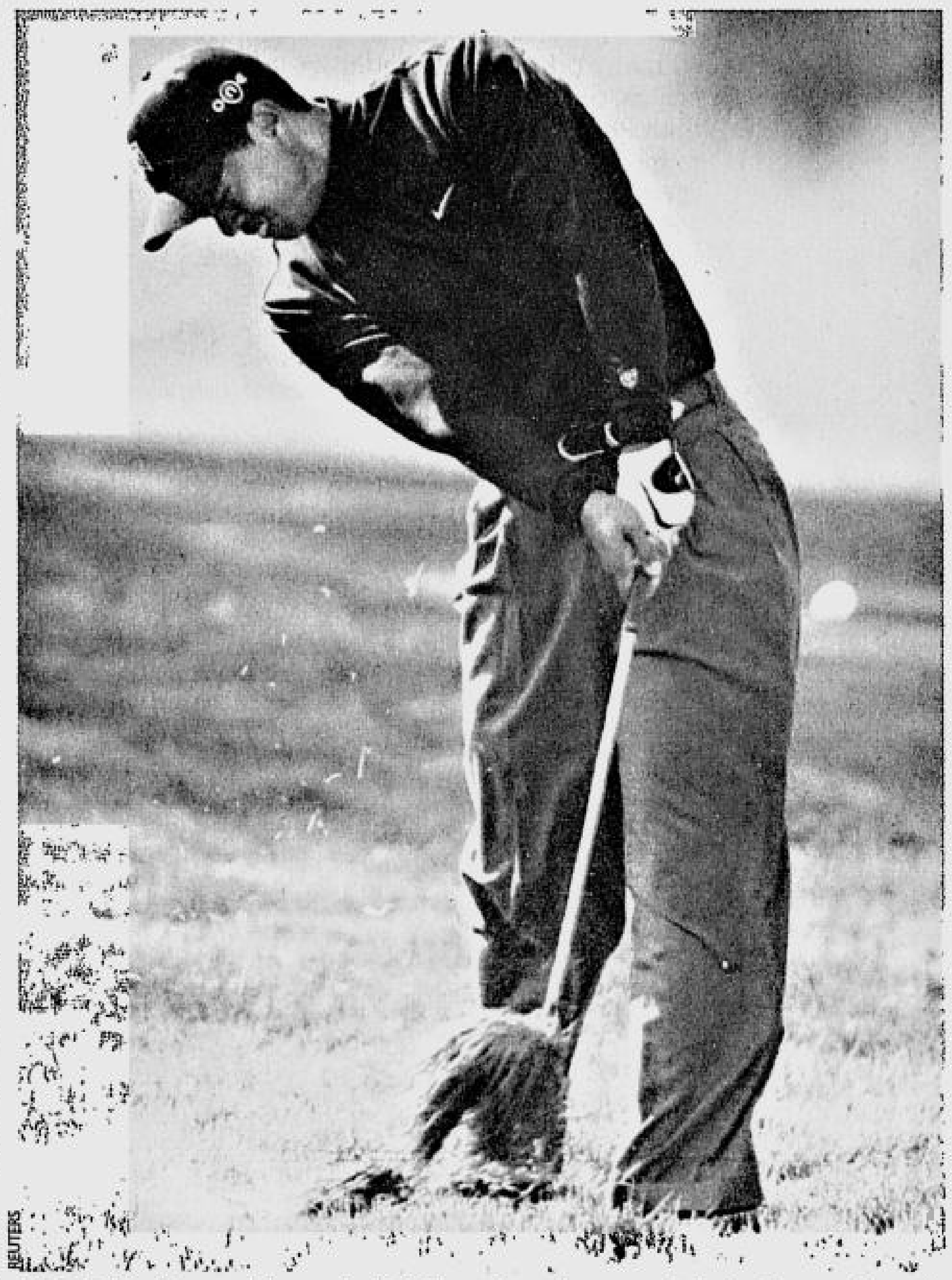
Mickelson never lost a hole in beating British Open champion Ben Curtis, 7 and 6, to tie the tournament record for largest margin of victory. Then, he overcame a hot start by Chris DiMarco to win, 3 and 2.

Mickelson reached the quarterfinals for the first time in the Accenture Match Play Championship, getting there with only two bogeys through his first three matches, and 10 birdies in 28 holes.

"Because I've kept it in play, the course seems to be so much easier," Mickelson said. "You'd think after 33 years I'd figure that out."

Mickelson (45) and Woods (46) have played fewer holes in three matches than anyone, although they're only halfway home to the finals and a shot at the $1.2-million prize.

Davis Love III might have had the easiest time. *AP*


REUTERS

WOODS hits his second shot on the 10th fairway from the wet rough during the second round.

20 teams join Corporate Cup

AT LEAST 20 teams are seeing action in the 16th edition of the Corporate Cup Invitational golf tournament set to fire off on March 9-11 at the world-class Camp John Hay course in Baguio City.

In the field are several foreign-based teams from the United States and key Asian cities which will be shooting it out with local squads for team and individual honors.

More visitors who are joining the ongoing PAL interclub in Cagayan de Oro are also expected to go on extended holiday and enjoy the cool climate in the City of Pines.

Fil-Estate and College Assurance Plan are once more providing major support for the country's longest-running corporate event which now calls Camp John Hay its permanent home. The Camp John Hay manor is the official hotel.

For inquiries, interested parties may call the Corporate Cup secretariat at 842-4556.

Organizing committee head Cecil Hechanova said the course condition and the amenities at Camp John Hay make it the perfect venue for a big gathering of businessmen and expatriates like the Corporate Cup.

Pagunsan . . .

From page A25

son of Canada (73) in the group sharing 14th.

Pagunsan's romance with the severely undulating greens saw him sink seven birdie putts inside six feet. On the 16th he stroked a simple wedge to within a foot of the flag for a tap-in birdie. He buried an eight-footer on the next then capped his brilliant play with a superb 8-iron, 160-yard approach to just inches of the hole.

"The key to my game today was my steady driving. I've been using a Callaway Big Bertha II driver I borrowed from my uncle Rey at the start of the year and I just hit it so well today," said Pagunsan.

Rey, a pro, withdrew under mysterious circumstances before the second round.

Juvic will be playing in the final flight with Edward Michaels and Groom today, a situation not really new to him since he had also played in the final pairing of the 2000 Philippine Masters with Cassius Casas and Robert Pactolerin.

Tuñacao gets Ring mag ranking like Pacquiao

By Rey Danseco, *Contributor*

MANNY Pacquiao is not the only acclaimed topnotch Filipino prizefighter today.

The Ring Magazine, considered the bible of boxing, released its new rankings Friday and installed World Boxing Council (WBC) International superflyweight champion Malcolm Tuñacao (14-1-2, 10 KOs) of Mandaue City as No. 6 in the flyweight division.

The 5-foot-7 Tuñacao is ranked behind four current and one former flyweight champions of various boxing bodies.

The stylish Filipino has moved up, however, to the heavier superflyweight division due to his difficulty of making the 112-lb flyweight limit since 2002.

With the magazine leaving the flyweight title vacant, Pongsaklek Wonjongkam of Thailand, who dethroned Tuñacao as WBC flyweight champion, has been rated No. 1. Rated No. 2 is unbeaten WBA champ Lorenzo Parra of Venezuela followed by undefeated IBF titlist Irene Pacheco of Colombia, ex-WBA champ Eric Morel of Puerto Rico and IBO king Mzukisi Sikali of South Africa.

Pacquiao is considered by Ring Magazine as the king of the featherweight division on the strength of his 11th-round stoppage of Marco Antonio Barrera on Nov. 15, 2003 in San Antonio, Texas.

After losing the WBC to Wonjongkam in his second defense in March 2001, the 26-year-old Tuñacao drew against then WBC International flyweight champ Randy Mangubat and then knocked out his next four opponents in the 115-lb class.

Tuñacao's last victory, a fifth-round knockout of Indon Ringo Jaguar in September, gave him the title yielded by ex-WBC superflyweight king Gerry Peñalosa, who has retired.

Tuñacao, now ranked No. 2 in the WBC superflyweight division, will defend his title in April, according to his promoter, Gabriel "Bebot" Elorde Jr.

Bata gains as Django bows out

LEGENDARY poolmaster Efren "Bata" Reyes and Filipino compatriot Warren "Smiling Face" Kiamco swept past their respective rivals to barge into the quarterfinals of the San Miguel Asian 9-Ball tour yesterday at the Pool Haven Billiards Hall in Clark Quay, Singapore.

The 49-year-old Reyes, known as the "Magician," beat local hero Bernard Tey, 9-4, after bouncing back from a 1-4 deficit.

"My opponent self-destructed after I won successive games," said Reyes.

Reyes, who beat Chinese Lin Didi, 9-5, in the opening round, will face Japanese seventh seed Satoshi Kawabata in the quarters.

Kiamco, twice leg runner-up last year, continued his fine performance in the first leg of the current tour by trouncing Japanese Hisashi Yamamoto, 9-6.

Kiamco, who earlier took the measure of Singapore's Ricky Chew, 9-3, will next meet Korean fourth seed Jeong Young Hwa.

The Filipinos' quarterfinal opponents were also impressive.

Jeong first took the measure of Xu Meng of China, 9-3, before disposing of Vietnamese Vu Trong Khai, 9-6, while Kawabata made short work of Manan Chandra of India, 9-3, and Vietnamese Nguyen Phuc Long, 9-4.

REYES PDI PHOTO

But Francisco "Django" Bustamante's winless spell on the Asian level continued.

Seeded first and armed with the world No. 1 ranking coming into the tournament, Bustamante fell to converted pool player Alok Kumar of India, 9-8, yesterday to become the biggest casualty after two rounds of the event.

Aside from Corteza, also taking early exits were Bata's son, Frennie Reyes, and Antonio Gabica.

The young Reyes was outclassed by Indonesian Siauw Wieto, 9-2. *With a report from Marlon Bernardino*

Ming bats for inclusion of badminton in SEAG

PHILIPPINE Badminton Association president and former First Lady Amelita Ramos and the RP team headed by coaches Butch Oreta and Melvin Llanes led a distinguished list of guests at the formal launch of Dunlop Badminton range 2004 recently at the Palms Country Club in Alabang, Muntinlupa.

Dunlop is also launching an 83-gram high modulus graphite racket in Malaysia and other countries in Asia-Pacific this week.

National players got the feel of new equipment technology and treated fans to a show of fine play in the Dunlop event.

Members of the RP squad traded smashes, fast hits and slow drops, turning what was expected to be a mere test of new equipment into a thrilling exhibition match to the delight of the crowd.

Mrs. Ramos, who delivered the keynote speech, vowed to fight for the inclusion of the sport in the 2005 SEA Games to be held here.

Vic's 'victims'

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

A MOST interesting aspect of every major golf tournament is the list of players who make the cut. Or how some made it to the weekend.

Stories about how the flunkies failed to survive the first two days are likewise endless grist of clubhouse talk even long after a tournament is over. Each victim has his own tale of woe.

Take the case of the DHL 88th Philippine Open Golf Championship, whose fourth and final round is presently being played at Riviera's Langer course in Silang, Cavite.

For Filipino Vic Santia, his advance into the last 36 holes was both sweet and bitter.

Sweet because he made it by banging home a big putt on his last hole for the day.

Bitter because he became the source of agony of 10 fellow players who missed the cut.

"I feel really sorry for them," Vic said. "But golf teaches you to always do your best for every stroke that you make."

He never knew the untold suffering his putt would inflict on the 10.

After Vic had holed in from 8 feet on 18, he stepped out of the green smiling broadly—even as he shot a 5-over-par 76.

With his 74 the day before, he totaled 150. That's 8-over. That's 11 shots behind leader Jeev M. Singh (68-71- 139) of India.

Still, he had that sweet smile; he made the cut.

Will Vic still be able to overhaul that 11-shot deficit?

Yes. In golf, nothing is impossible.

But that's not what's on Vic's mind. What's on Vic's mind—at least on Friday—was he made the cut. To many Filipino pros, the Open is the pinnacle of success. By just being in it is already an honor. You might consider this funny but for many of our pros, just making the cut is already considered a badge of excellence.

Vic Santia is no exception.

"I really drained that putt on 18," he said. "It was as if my life had depended on it."

At 36, this Bacolod-born father of two girls and two boys is still winless after turning pro eight years ago. Because of the dearth of tournaments, Vic makes both ends meet by teaching the game at Villamor.

And who were Vic's 10 "victims" on Friday?

The most prominent was Gerald Rosales, the 2000 RP Open champion at Langer. Rosales shot 76 for 151 to miss the cut by one.

Had Vic Santia missed his 8-footer on 18, Rosales would be in today's last round together with Santia and two other equally prominent countrymen—2001 Philippine Open champion Cassius Casas and Mitsubishi Lancer winner Carito Villaroman. Carito, a former world junior champion, won the Lancer with his hole-in-one on Thursday at No. 4.

The other seven who missed the cut by one were Kim Do-Hoon of Korea (78-73), Gerry Norquist of the US (75-76), Huang Tung-Liang of Chinese Taipei (75-76), Jason Moon of Australia (68-83), Prom Meesawat of Thailand (72-79), Lam Chih-bing of Singapore (78-73) and Scott Barr of Australia (71-80).

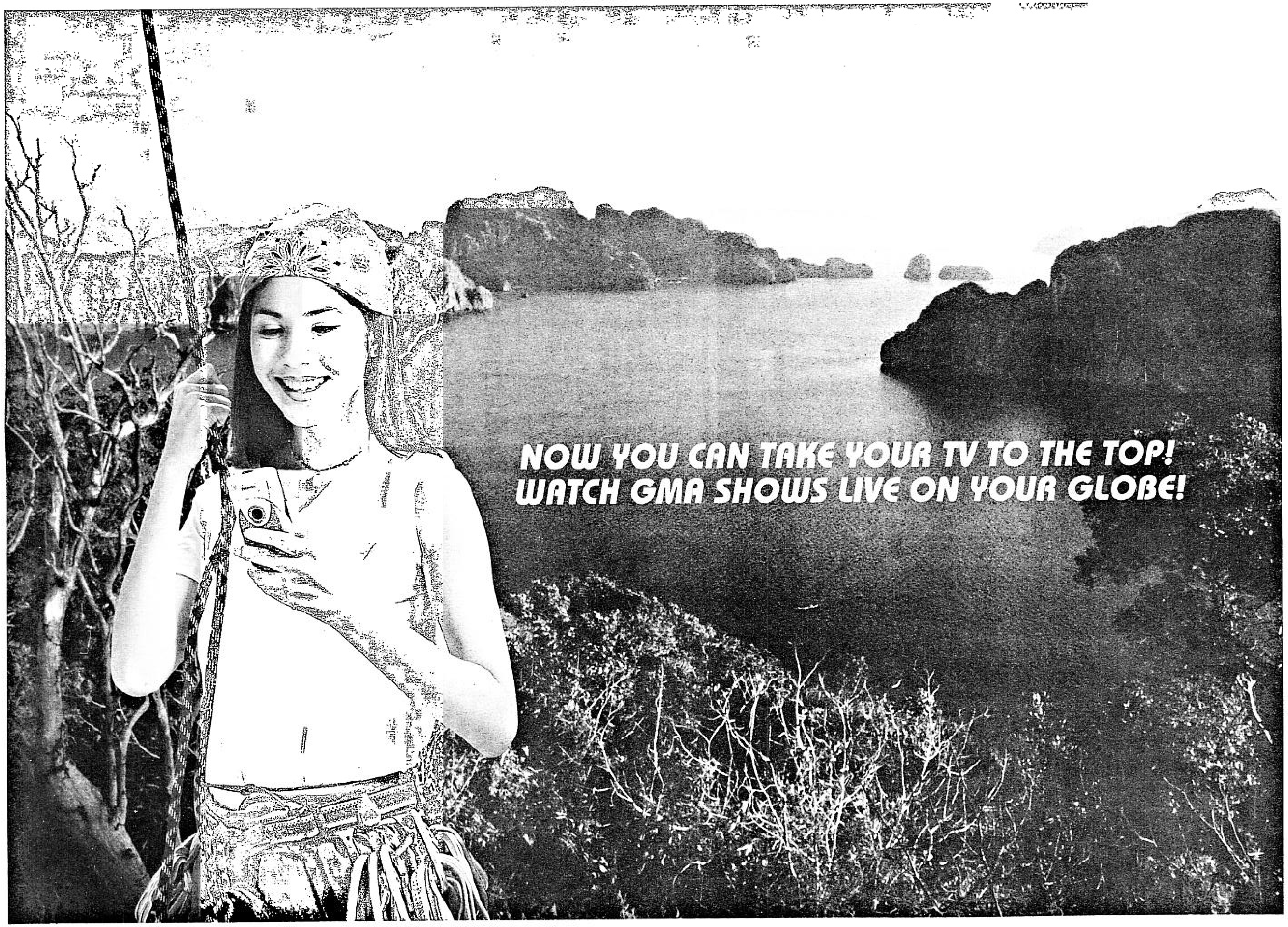
Notice that Moon had opened up with a 68, Barr 71 and Meesawat 72. For them to miss the cut by one after impressive opening-day rounds is hellish, if not pure bull. I won't blame them if they got themselves dead drunk on Friday night and wake up the next morning locked up in jail for refusing to pay their bill the night before.

Vic Santia said he was sad with what he'd done.

"I never knew I'd bump them out," he said. "All I knew was I had to sink that putt, like the rest of the putts I'd faced today."

***

FASTBREAK. I salute the tremendous contribution of Riviera's Joe Dagdagan insofar as putting in shape the venue (Langer course) of the DHL 88th Philippine Open is concerned. The sweet-smiling Joe, Col. Buluran's grounds division maintenance chief, is chiefly credited with Riviera's superb condition all year round. Joe and his assistant, Alvin Panaligan, personify the Filipino's enviable stature as being comparable with the world's best grounds managers, including maybe even those from Jack Nicklaus' prestigious golf company . . . Oh, yes, the family name of Ariel, one of Riviera's most trusted men at the clubhouse restaurant, is Aguilar. Not Alegre. Sorry about that, Ariel.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Morales favored over Chavez

LAS VEGAS—Jesus Chavez is more economical with his words than with his punches, so he has no trouble summing up his title fight with Erik Morales on Saturday in one sentence. "He wants to establish himself as a three-time champion of the world and I want to establish myself as a true champion of the world," Chavez said on Friday. Morales has been well on the way to his goal since winning his first title at 54 kilograms (122 pounds) nearly seven years ago. For Chavez, though, the road to the top has been long and difficult. Chavez gets a chance to make a name for himself when he defends his WBC 58-kilogram (130-pound) title against fellow Mexican Morales in a scheduled 12-round fight that figures to be nonstop action from the opening bell. It's the first defense for Chavez, and the fact he agreed to make it against the two-time champion known as "El Terrible" says a lot about his growing confidence in his abilities. Chavez won the WBC belt with a decision last August against Sirimongkol Singmanasak in his adopted hometown of Austin, Texas. *AP*

NBC referees' tryouts slated

AS PART of its preparations for the 2004 season set to kick off in May, the National Basketball Conference (NBC) will be holding its referees' tryouts starting March 2, at the Brgy. Kapitolyo Amphitheatre in Pasig City. The tryouts, which will run until March 5, are open to all interested parties with previous refereeing experience. Males must be at least 5-foot-7 in height, while females must at least be 5-foot-3 tall and have at least reached their second year in college. Applicants should be at the venue by 7 a.m. and must present their resumé upon registration. Former UST Glowing Goldie Ed Camus and multititled coach Arlene Rodriguez are the league's technical heads, while Jun Sarte, a veteran from the Philippine Basketball League and the defunct Metropolitan Basketball Association, is the training supervisor. NBC secretary-general Tito Palma and Director for Basketball Operations Noel Zarate has tapped former PBA head of referees Ernie de Leon as consultant.

Kitefest goes to Lingayen today

AFTER a very successful second leg in Dumaguete City, the 14th Bear Brand Kitefest will visit the city of Lingayen in Pangasinan today for its third leg. Thousands of kite-flying enthusiasts from Regions 1 to 5, CAR and NCR are expected to gather at the Don Narciso Ramos Sports and Civic Center on the event day to participate in the third leg of the 2004 Bear Brand Kitefest. Lingayen city officials, led by mayor Josephine Castañeda will be gracing the event. After Lingayen, the 14th Bear Brand Kitefest will go to General Santos on March 7, Palawan on March 14, Tacloban on March 21, Cagayan de Oro on March 28, Kalibo on April 4, Baguio on April 18 and Manila on April 25. Interested parties must bring valid identification and register on the site from 7-9 a.m. Participants from the elementary, high school and college divisions are requested to present valid school IDs while participants for the Adults level are requested to present a valid community tax certificate.

Roligon hosting 'Bakbakan' tourney

THE NATIONAL Federation of Gamefowl Breeders (NFGB), in cooperation with Roligon Mega Cockpit, presents the "Bakbakan Open 8-Cock Derby" on April 12, 14, 16, 19, 21 and 23. Entry fee is only P15,000 but the guaranteed prize is a staggering P3 million. NFGB, the umbrella organization of leading gamefowl breeders organization in the country, also staged the 374-entry Bakbakan Derby at the Araneta Coliseum last November. The six-day super cockfest will adopt the "open invitation" format, which means that any cocker and breeder may join, according to Roligon general manager Danny Ty. Ty said that 40 additional cockhouses (air-conditioned) were constructed in anticipation of the big number of entries in the "Bakbakan." At present, Roligon has more than 200 cockhouses. Reservations of cockhouses is now ongoing and interested parties may call 833-2275, 833-1638, 852-9812 and 852-9774 (look for Hazel or Shirley). Meanwhile, the "Largahan 5-Cock Derby," dangling a guaranteed prize of P1.5 million, is all set on March 4, 6 and 9.

Pasay 4-cock tilt unfolds March 10

WITH more than 100 fights scheduled, Pasay City Cockpit's big 4-cock derby on March 10 (Wednesday) will start promptly at 2 p.m. Derby host Bobot Yu of Valenzuela, well known in the circuit for staging derbies with guaranteed prizes, said the event offers P300,000 to the winner. Entry fee is P8,800 and minimum bet is P5,500. Participants are reminded to submit entries on March 9, from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. only. For other details, contact 816-6750, 843-1746 and 843-1890. The latest batch of confirmed participants include 2004 World Slasher Cup champions Rudy Salud and Lito Orillaza, Sonny Bascon, Joey Contreras, lawyer Romero Yu, Biboy Enriquez, Marcel Julao, LCC Leonard, Eric Miranda, Joseph Dy, Tony Tan, Butch Nuñez, Sonny Lagon, lawyer Capuchino, Don Manolo Lopez, Gerald Go, Jerry Sunga, Peter Acuña, Amboy Manlapaz, Jojo Cruz, Jimmy Lim, ASF Group Eric Lu, Mel Lim, Fabian Cua, William Go, Pepito Ngo, Mario de la Cuesta, Manding Santos, Arman Santos, Boy Marzo and Alan Tan.

PIATA GOLFEST. The First Piata Golf Cup will fire off on March 8 at the Sta. Elena Golf Club in Cabuyao, Laguna. Thai Airways International and the Philippine IATA Agents Travel Association (Piata) are the co-presentors. Shown signing the recent memorandum of agreement are (from left) Ms Emily Martinez, sales manager Thai Airways International; Khun Chertchai Methanayoda, general-manager-Philippines and Guam; Frank Khouri, president/Piata overall chair and Victoria Gonzales, Piata trustee/co-chair. For inquiries, please call the Piata secretariat at 832-0901 or 523-1954.

IBSA MEETING. Ibsa (International Blind Sports Federation) president Enrique Perez (second from left) praises organizers of the 1st Ibsa Asia-Oceania Strategic Planning Conference at Hotel Intercontinental, led by Ibsa continental delegate for Asia and PSC commissioner Michael Barredo, for a successful event which is "undoubtedly a model to be repeated" in other continents. For his part, Barredo cited President Macapagal-Arroyo's commitment to the "Sports for All" program, particularly for the differently-abled sector. Also in picture, from left, are: Commissioner Barredo, Ibsa treasurer Silvia Aldini, Ibsa medical director Dr. Georges Challe and Ibsa continental delegate for Oceania Raeburn McCleod.

FIESTA CONFERENCE

Young sparks Aces' victory

By June Navarro

GAMES TODAY (*Araneta Coliseum*)
4:00 p.m.—Purefoods vs Ginebra
6:15 p.m.—Talk 'N Text vs Shell

WITH an import as good as Galen Young, Alaska hardly felt the absence of John Arigo.

Young came up with an all-around game and sparked the Aces to a resounding 88-80 win over the Sta. Lucia Realtors last night in the Gran Matador PBA Fiesta Conference at the Philsports Arena.

The 6-foot-4 Young was more than a match for the 6-8 Lamayn Wilson of Sta. Lucia Realty, impressing the sizeable crowd and Alaska coach Tim Cone no end.

"He's (Young) difficult to describe. He doesn't have a specific skill that they could take away. He's just a great all-around player and exudes a lot of energy," said Cone, noting Young's team-high 27 points and 14 rebounds in an almost no-relief game.

Arigo missed the game as he rested a battered knee, but Sta. Lucia failed to exploit this as its chief gunner, Kenneth Duremdes, also rode the bench after straining his right calf in practice.

"If Kenneth's in the game, the outcome would probably be different. It evened matters because while we lost Arigo to the injury list, they don't have Kenneth on the floor," said Cone.

Without Duremdes, the Realtors placed the scoring load on Wilson as Marlou Aquino and Dennis Espino struggled in the final quarter.

With Wilson scoring 11 of his game-high 29 points and Paolo Mendoza, Paeng Santos and rookie Nelbert "Bitoy" Omolon backing him up, the Realtors moved within 82-78, with less than a minute left.

But Brandon Cablay scored five straight points to stop the Realtors' onslaught.

"He's very smart and intelligent. But he must learn how to conserve his energy like Bobby Parks. Anyway, it's a good start for us. We probably lost steam in the fourth quarter because of the excitement of playing our first game," said Cone.

Rookie Sonny Thoss, picked by the Aces at fifth overall, also showed his potential by holding his own against Aquino and Espino inside the paint.

Art Long erupted for 35 points as San Miguel Beer dealt FedEx its second-worst franchise loss, 105-76, in the second game. The Express bowed to the Coca-Cola Tigers by a margin of 34 points last season.

Scores:

First game:

ALASKA 88—Young 27, Cortez 18, Cablay 15, Peek 12, Allado 8, Thoss 4, Duat 4, Feihl 0, Camaso 0.

STA. LUCIA 80—Wilson 29, Espino 16, Aquino 14, Adriano 7, Santos 5, Gonzales 4, Omolon 3, Mendoza 2, Cuan 0, Victolero 0, Locsin 0, Ong 0.

Quarters: 21-15, 41-30, 63-51, 88-80.

Second game:

SMB 105—Long 35, Ildefonso 15, Hontiveros 11, Mente 9, Belasco 9, Peña 9, Singson 8, Gahol 4, Racela 3, Malabanan 2, Gamboa 0.

FEDEX 76—Meneses 16, Ritualo 14, Jefferson 9, De Ocampo 9, Yap 9, Pingris 5, Ferriols 4, Billones 4, Rodriguez 2, Ejercito 2, Arboleda 2, Gonzales 0, Bernardo 0.

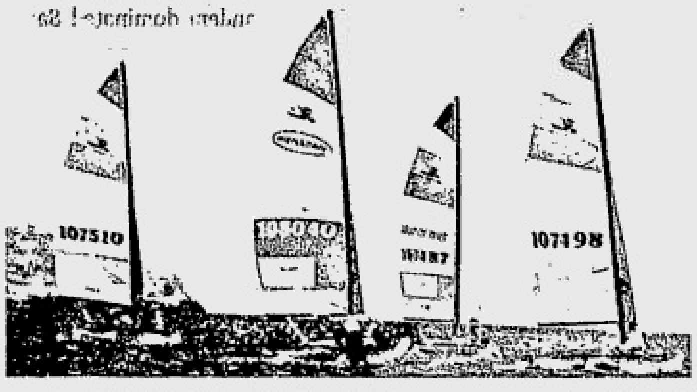
Quarters: 26-22, 54-39, 81-57, 105-76.

YOUNG tries to wrest the ball from Kiko Adriano an

REGATTA

Tomacruz, Manuel shine

By Trina Ibarle



PARTICIPANTS are off to a good start.

ROGER MARGALLO

NASUGBU, Batangas—Luck was on the side of the two Hobie winners in the Long Beach-Fortune Island-Terrazas Regatta yesterday at the Club Punta Fuego here.

Enjoying a strong downwind, skipper Eric Tomacruz and partner Shelli Manuel swept past 11 other challengers with a time of one hour, 12 minutes and 3 seconds in the Long Beach-Fortune Island leg.

Austrian national Johannes Zehethofer and crewman Noli Haranata topped the Fortune Island-Terrazas de Punta Fuego second leg of the two-day race hosted by Club Punta Fuego and sponsored by RFM, Rayomarine.com, Smart, Starbucks, Casio, I-Bank and Tropical Ice.

Meanwhile, Edmund Umali and his streaker topped the Open category of the Long Beach-Fortune Island leg over 10 other streakers, lasers and sunfish dinghies with a time of 1:02:15.

Tomacruz, an Internet businessman, went straight to the rocky coast of Fortune Island, which was the longer route, instead of taking his chances with the other hobies getting strong gusts in the first leg.

Hobie veteran Renie Ticzon and his crewman Roy Toala showed the way as the lead pack jibed from the left side of the island's coast, but the winds died just as they were coming ashore.

Meanwhile, Tomacruz and Manuel got more downwind power that allowed them to sail past their rivals for a clean victory.

"I decided to go straight ahead to the island instead of jibing, and luckily, it paid off," said Tomacruz, who has been sailing

TOMACRUZ/A30

Letran spik

By Marc Anthony Reyes

LETRAN downed Adamson, 21-16, for its third straight victory yesterday and paced two other teams into the women's quarterfinals of the Nestea Beach Volley 2004 Luzon elimination at the Rockwell Center in Makati.

Fresh from their victory in the NCAA beach volley recently, Cathlea Villaluz

Henin-Harde perfect recor

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates—Justin Henin-Hardenne beat Meghann Shaughnessy of the United States, 6-4, 6-2, in the semifinals of the Dubai Women's Open on Friday and extended her perfect winning record this year to 13-0.

Henin-Hardenne, the world No. 1 and defending titleholder, will face Svetlana Kuznetsova in Saturday's final after the Russian teenager upset fifth-seeded Ai Sugiyama of Japan, 6-0, 7-5.

It will be a busy day for 18-

World-class experience in Singapore

ONE WINNER

Edwin Villanueva

DRUMBEATERS of the San Lazaro Leisure Park has repeatedly boasted that the Carmona, Cavite racetrack is world-class.

The *bayang karerista* agreed.

Yes it is, according to them, world-class for its architectural flaws and having delayed start of races, poorly-handicapped programs, low crowd turnout and of late, poor racing coverage (Yes, folks, it has been that way since Ceferino "Howie" Basilio and Ira "Mr. Three and Fifty to Travel" Herrera left the panel).

Racing fans have also shied away from the park, preferring the OTBS instead, because of the monstrous traffic jams they have to confront in going to and from the facility.

A member of a bogus horse racing group previously said that it is "comparable if not better than other racing clubs in Asia."

Oh yeah?

Comparable, maybe in 10 more years or so, and better, in probably another 15 or 20 more years.

A reader who visited Singapore recently sent us a very interesting mail, recounting his unforgettable experience at the Singapore Turf Club, a certified world-class race venue.

***

Dear Mr. Villanueva,

Greetings. I'm one of your countless fans from the *bayang karerista* of Sta. Ana, Manila. I have read about your columns on the "wa class" tag on SLLP.

May I share with you my experience on a world-class track, the Singapore Turf Club, located in Kranji. This is a new race track as they sought the need to build a new one which could be accessible by MRT. The old Turf Club in Bukit Timah is accessible by bus and is no longer used but only for special occasions.

I was visiting my wife when the lure of horse races could not stop me from locating the race track and discovering what it looks like. I was instructed by cab drivers to take the MRT because once I get off the Kranji station, a pathway will lead race-goers to the track.

They also told me that the the dress code has been relaxed and that you can come in shorts but not in slippers and *sando*. I made it to one of the night races and the race track has a grand view of the Kranji area at night.

What will capture your attention is the mini-grandstand where they groom the horses before the races, but when the horses are called to proceed to the track they will pass through a glass tunnel in the middle of the main grandstand for a closer look by the racing aficionados for final thoughts on their bets before they are led away to the starting gates.

This gives the horses a dramatic entrance as they are the main attraction of the races. Escalators will take you different levels of the grandstand. There is a giant screen in the middle of the track (*Walang ganyan sa* "wa-class" SLLP) to add to the excitement of the crowd as the horses disappear into the horizon at the sound of the bell.

Jockeys and horses are given a closer look as they battle midway through the race.

The races are held in two types of tracks one in sand and the other in turf. So horses must be adept on both surfaces.

Betting was mainly the same and they are online with Malaysia (*Walang ganyan sa "wa-class" SLLP—EV*) since races are held alternately between the two countries. Air-conditioned stables are right next to the track so that horses are led to their stables at the end of each race. I was in awe with what I was seeing. I managed to take some pictures for souvenir. I even met Filipino bettors who obliged to take my pictures as I posed proudly with the race track in the background. We talked about Wind Blown and Strong Material.

I was calling my wife on the cell phone to the bewilderment of the locals because they saw a little boy lost in the race track with a camera in tow.

I was surprised they wouldn't even oblige in taking my picture as a tourist. Only one did, but with much hesitation and caution. After the final race I headed to the exits with the evoking thought of when will the Philippines ever have a race track such as this.

But a few more steps before I exit through the turnstiles I saw a huge sign that said "cameras and cell phones are not allowed inside please use the deposit box near the entrance" (*Walang ganyan sa "wa-class --EV*). It even had a huge "X" mark across the sign. I realized that I was in a foreign land with strict laws.

I immediately rushed to the exits agonizing in the slow pace of the crowd and sought the refuge of the MRT platform and anxious-

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

James has last laugh as Cavs outplay McGrady, Orlando

d Wilson of SLR. AUGUST DELA CRUZ

ORLANDO—LeBron James shook off an offensive foul late in regulation and took over in overtime.

The 19-year-old rookie scored six of his 30 points and had a pivotal rebound in overtime, played with the poise of a veteran in leading the Cleveland Cavaliers to a 112-107 victory Friday night over the Orlando Magic.

The standout performance came after Cleveland blew an 18-point fourth-quarter lead and James committed an offensive foul while trying to take the ball to the basket on the Cavaliers' final possession of regulation.

"This guy is no young rookie, he's already a legitimate star in this league," said Magic forward Keith Bogans, who had the defensive assignment on James for much of the fourth quarter and overtime.

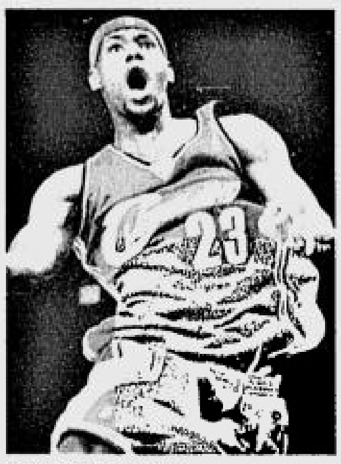
"We take a charge on him at the end of regulation and there isn't the first sign of him being timid when overtime starts. He comes right back out and starts dominating again," Bogans said.

Carlos Boozer added 17 points and 16 rebounds, and Jeff McInnis had 16 points and 10 assists.

James had it going early as well as late.

He scored 19 points in the first half when Cleveland led 53-44, then let Zydrunas Ilgauskas take over in the second half against the Magic's weak interior defense.

"LeBron is incredible, really," said Tracy McGrady, who led Orlando with 35 points. "Nothing rattles him at all. He's extremely confident and a real competitor. At the age of 19, that's scary."



JAMES: Standout performance. AP

Ilgauskas scored 10 straight Cavaliers points during one stretch as the visitors pulled away to a 78-60 lead in the third period. Ilgauskas finished with 28 points.

"The first half was about me, then 'Z' took over in the second half and that's what a team is all about," James said. "They wanted me to be the leader (in overtime) so I closed the game out for them. It was a complete team effort."

McGrady scored seven points off those turnovers, including a three-point play that made it 94-90 with 3:31 to go. McInnis hit a short jumper to make it 96-93 with 3:01 to play, and neither team scored again until Boozer's follow shot with 30 seconds to play made it 98-93.

In Minneapolis, Kevin Garnett had 24 points, nine rebounds and nine assists as the Minnesota Timberwolves beat the Golden State Warriors for the first time this season, 91-81.

Minnesota, which has now defeated every other NBA team this season, lost to the Warriors in both of their previous meetings.

The Wolves took the lead for good when Garnett beat Mike Dunleavy for an offensive rebound and the ball was swung to Fred Hoiberg for a 3-pointer to put Minnesota up 62-59. That basket keyed a 16-4 run that erased a 57-52 Warriors' lead.

Erick Dampier scored a season-high 24 points and had 19 rebounds for Golden State, and Jason Richardson scored 14 of his 18 points in the second half.

Boston's advantage swelled to as many as 26 points, 63-37, in the third quarter. *AP*

Complete results:

Boston 88, Toronto 75; Cleveland 112, Orlando 107 (OT); New Orleans 89, Indiana 77; Detroit 105, Atlanta 83; Minnesota 91, Golden State 81; Houston 89, Portland 85; Milwaukee 106, Memphis 104; Phoenix 104, Seattle 99; Utah 102, Sacramento 97; LA Clippers 96, New York 94.

NBA refs protest

NEW YORK—In an act of protest, NBA referees turned their jerseys inside-out on Friday night and wore No. 62—the number assigned to a disciplined colleague.

Referee Michael Henderson's bad call at the end of Wednesday's Los Angeles Lakers-Denver Nuggets game was publicly acknowledged on Thursday by the NBA.

Henderson was taken off three job assignments and summoned to the league office, the referees' association said.

"An unprecedented job action was taken against one of their colleagues, so an unprecedented response was necessary," said Larnell McMorris, a spokesman and negotiator for the National Basketball Referees Association. *AP*

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...ers clip Adamson, surge to quarterfinals

d Genelyn Alemania kept their cord unblemished by trouncing Kris- e Ann Dave and Hannah Suarez.

Though the Adamson spikers anaged to hang tough at 15-all, e 19-year-old Alemania sparked tran's strong finish with a variety moves, including a drop shot that nt their opponents plunging adlong into the burning gray sand for the victory.

"We trained very hard for this," said Villaluz, an economics student. "I think we had an edge over the other teams because we know our moves by heart."

The duo helped Letran finish fourth in the 2002 finals in Boracay and fifth in the 2003 edition.

Ma. Kristrina Enola and Madonna Rimando of the University of Baguio and Raquel Ordonez and Zeira Castillon of College of St. Benilde also prevailed over their respective rivals to advance to the next round.

The UB tandem dominated San Sebastian-Cavite's Sharisse Ordonez and Ivy Mores, 21-15, while the CSB duo dumped Philippine Christian University's Josa Mangaliman and Romalyn Manzano, 21-17.

In men's action, defending champion San Sebastian Manila whipped Lyceum of the Philippines, 21-17, for its second straight victory.

The format calls for the top four teams in both divisions to make it to the Boracay finals set April 14-16. They will be joined by the top four squad from the Visayas-Mindanao eliminations on March 12-14 in Cebu City.

nne pads l to 13-0

-old Kuznetsova, who will al- lay the doubles final with patriot Elena Likhovtseva.

enin-Hardenne, who came to i on the back of her third grand triumph at the Australian , had to work hard to over- Shaughnessy, who'd knocked lo. 4 seed Anastasia Myskina.

e Belgian broke for 2-1, ks to a double fault, but ghnessy rallied from the of the court and tested n-Hardenne with accurate ndstrokes. *AP*

---

ited for the next train. Only I saw the headlights of the ning train was I able to re- the strength in my knees.

ore power to you and thank for giving my letter your est attention.

ease greet my wife Aimee, I her very much.

urs in horse racing,
is Enrique Zidane
. Ana, Manila

***

for JR "Racing" Cabansag, fellow who caught the *istas* fancy' with his race- g antics on horses like Game hed the game), Total Attack cking on the outside), (Stay le) Diana, (it was) Fascina- Joaqi (in the park) and (*ala* 's) Batangas Entry, he is re- dly trying to apply once at San Lazaro.

, who also once shocked rac- fficials and fans alike when arted calling one race start- rom the tailender up to the etter, is probably one of the colorful and vibrant callers racing has ever had. Most *istas* are hoping to see him in harness again.

***

mail One Winner at evil- va@inquirer.com.ph or gvilla@yahoo.com

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Race 2--1. Pacific Storm 2. Master Ijhay 3. Bonjour Baby

Race 3--1. Western Dancer 2. Batang Cabu 3. Song Bird 4. Parrot Moe 5. Dinner Dress 6. Morning Nell

Race 4--1. Conquer D Sun 2. Hantuchova 3. Khan Caloo 4. Sunny Puddles

Race 5--1. Society Girl 2. Princess Malinda 3. Dot Com 4. Aprey's Choice 5. Diligence

Race 6--1. Material Maker 2. Surprise Target

Race 7--1. Star Worth 2. Swallow Ur Pride 3. Grande Ecole 4. Blitzkrieg 5. Yokozuna/Cool Clay 6. All Powerful

Race 8--1. Albatross 2. Twin Brother 3. Lucky Beat 4. Kitana 5. Race for Gold

Race 9--1. Baggirl 2. La Tondeña 3. L'Islet Sur Mer 4. Throttle 5. Union Square 6. Ginger Candy

Race 10--1. Maria Nevada 2. Sir Lawrence 3. Lady be Gold

Race 11--1. Kiss Me Quick 2. She Boom 3. Spoiler 4. Blue Iris 5. Gentleman's Lady/He's So Lucky

Race 12--1. San Diego Force 2. Cutting Edge 3. Espirikitik 4. Better Strike

Race 13--1. Brenda Starr 2. Brainchild/Count Your Blessings 3. Dulce My Love 4. Silver Music 5. Ole Ole Ole 6. Better Harry

SPORTS TV

Compiled by L. Manguiat

BASKETBALL: NBA-Nuggets vs Spurs; 9:30 a.m. (r-8 p.m.); Solar Sports—Midwest Division rivals Denver and San Antonio tangle in Texas.

NBA Greatest Games-Magic vs Pistons, Game 2, 2003 Eastern First Round; Solar Sports—Eight-seed Orlando seizes to a 2-0 lead against Detroit as Tracy McGrady has another offensive explosion.

POOL: San Miguel Asian 9-Ball Tour; 4:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Star Sports—Witness the live airing of the semifinals and finals from Singapore.

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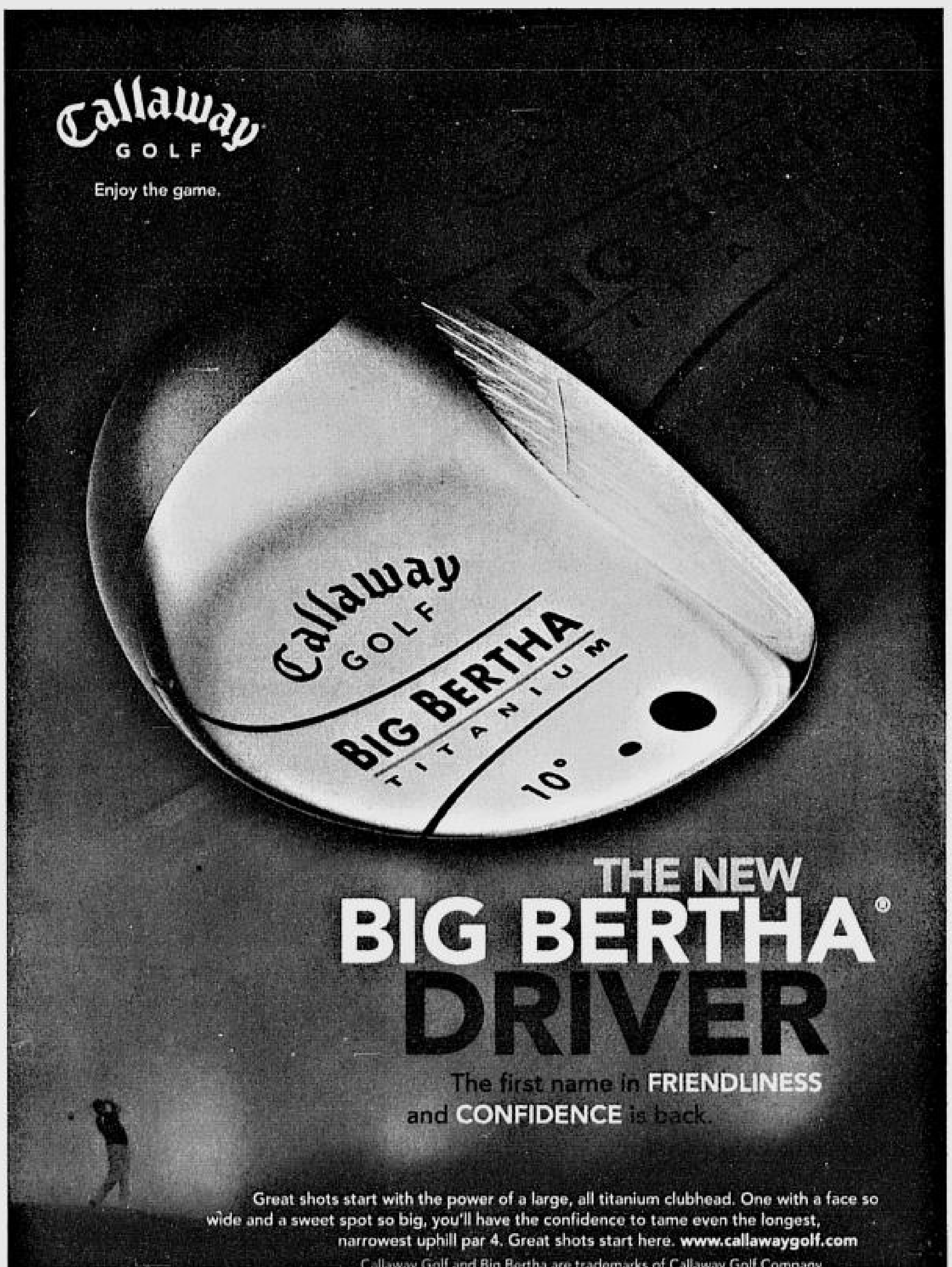
Long Drive	March 25	5:00pm to 8:00pm
Manila East	March 26	5:00pm to 8:00pm



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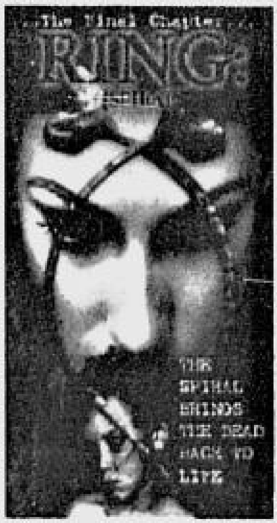
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5 MILAN

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7 WATER DEMON

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4 MONA LIZA

Cine Nepo
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3 HAUNTED OFFICE
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3 RUN AWAY JURY
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GUARDO

Cebu rules swim meet

TEAM Cebu City, displaying its old, brilliant form in a discipline that has been its traditional source of honors in various competitions, dominated the recent 2004 Cebu City National Invitational Swimming Championships.

Leading the Cebuanos' onslaught at the Aquatic Center of the Cebu City Sports Center were Andrei Yosef Ynclino and Dianne Cañeda who accounted for 12 of Team Cebu's 42-gold output.

Team Cebu's 42-34-30 gold-silver-bronze tally was worth 832.5 points under the point-system used in the tournament hosted by the Cebu City Swimming Association in cooperation with the Cebu City government through the Cebu City Sports Commission headed by Jonathan Guardo.

"I have always believed in the capability of the Cebuano swimmers. Swimming has been our main source of medals in multi-event competitions like the Palarong Pambansa and the defunct Philippine National Games," said Guardo.

Swimming was in Guardo's priority list when he created the CCSC's flagship program, Team Cebu City, that aims to produce Cebuano athletes who will be tapped to represent not only Cebu but the country as well in international competitions like the Southeast Asian Games.

Ynclino, a student of the University of San Carlos, won seven gold medals following his dominating performance in the 100-m and 200-m backstroke, 100-m and 200-m breaststroke, 200-m butterfly and the 200-m individual medley. Cañeda of the University of Cebu topped the 50-, 100- and 200-m freestyle, 200-m butterfly and breaststroke, and the 200-m IM.

Tomacruz, Manuel …

From page A28

hobies since 1999.

Zehethofer, who hails from Vienna, Austria, and Haranata, a former Philippine Airlines pilot, also took their chances of getting their winds from the center before their Hobie 16 docked on the sandy beach of Terrazas de Punta Fuego.

They placed dead last after capsizing early in the first leg, but found the upwinds favoring them in the second race.

Interscholastics golf tourney on Solar

HIGHLIGHTS of the second Samsung Interscholastics golf championships held recently at Manila Southwoods' Legends course will be shown on Solar Sports at 7 p.m. tomorrow, March 1.

Ateneo and La Salle dominated action in the collegiate and high school divisions while St. Benedict-Alabang took the elementary crown in the 54-hole tourney organized by the Professional Sports Management Group.

Nineteen schools from all over Metro Manila and nearby provinces took part in the tourney.

Araneta Center
ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

ALI MALL CINEPLEX 7

Ali 1	UBELT
Ali 2	MILAN
Ali 3	SOMETHINGS GOTTA GIVE
Ali 4	COLD MOUNTAIN
Ali 5	DUPLEX
Ali 6	KUYA
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ODEON	X-MEN 2
ODEON-2	BUKID AY BASA / KASIBULAN
ROBEN	BOLD STAR
TANDEM-1	SUGAT
TANDEM-2	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
TIMES	SPY / LEGEND OF CROCODILE
QUEZON CITY	
ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	ORIGINAL SIN
ACT-4	HANGGANG KAILAN KA PAPATAY
CORONET A	U-BELT
CORONET B	A MAN APART
QUEZON-1	BERTUD NG PUTIK
REMAR	X-MEN 2
REMAR-2	BOLD STAR
NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA	
A	U-BELT
B	BURLESK KING
C	
MANDALUYONG CITY	
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
CINEMA-2	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
CAINTA RIZAL	
STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	KUYA
CINEMA-2	U-BELT
CINEMA-3	MYSTIC RIVER (RI)
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	HAUNTED MANSION
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	RUNAWAY JURY
CINEMA-6	CHASING LIBERTY
CINEMA-7	WISHING STAIRS
CINEMA-8	GUSTO KO SA LALAKI (RI)
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	SOMETHING GOTTA GIVE
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	DUPLEX
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	COLD MOUNTAIN
CINEMA-12	WATER DEMON
CINEMA-14	GHOST HOUSE
CINEMA-15	MILAN
LORES	
CINEMA-2	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-3	KAYA'KO PERO MASAKIT
NE CINEMAGIC - CABANATUAN	
(LAS PINAS)	MILAN
CINEMA-1	HAUNTED MANSION
CINEMA-2	CLOSED
CINEMA-4	CLOSED
UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL	
(PARANAQUE)	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-1	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
CINEMA-2	MEN IN BLACK II
CINEMA-4	SELDA

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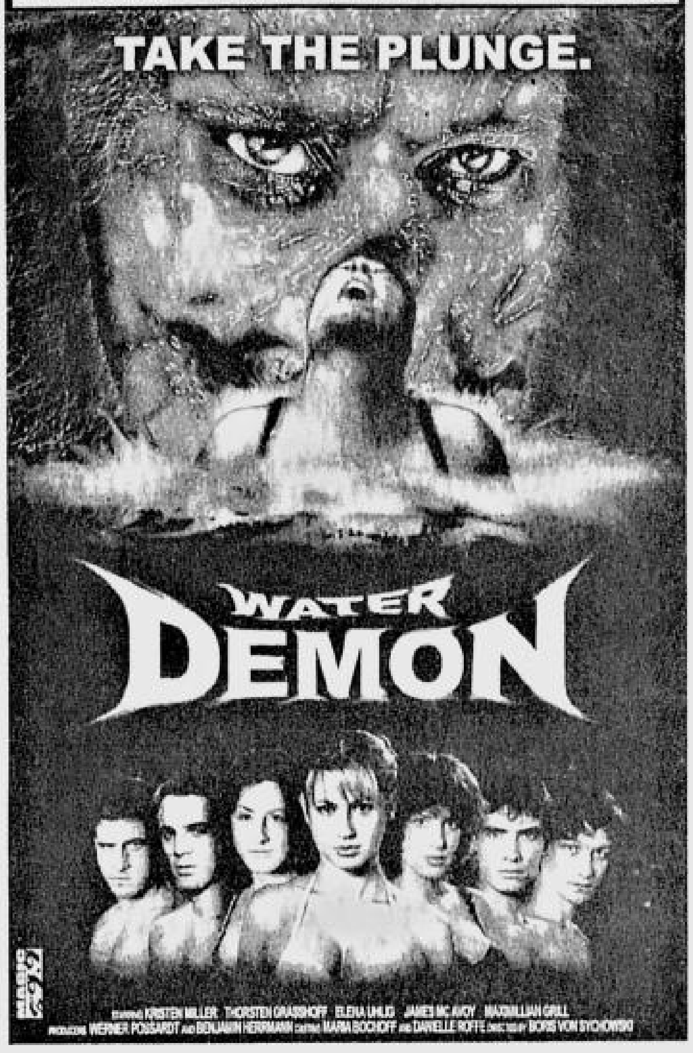
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2	**SOMETHING'S GOTTA GIVE** 11:30, 2:20, 5:10, 8:00, 10:50 R-13
3	**RUNAWAY JURY** 11:50, 2:20, 4:50 7:20, 9:50 R-13
4	**LOST IN TRANSLATION** 12:25, 2:30, 4:35, 6:40 8:45, 10:50 PG-13

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RUNAWAY JURY **R13** 1:35, 4:10, 6:45, 9:25	**DUPLEX** **PG13** 11:50, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, 10:00	**HAUNTED MANSION** **GP** 1:30, 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30
LOST IN TRANSLATION **PG13** 11:35, 1:45, 3:55, 6:05, 8:15, 10:20	**COLD MOUNTAIN** **R18** 12:25, 3:30, 6:35, 9:40	**SOMETHING GOTTA GIVE** **R13** 12:00, 2:35, 5:10, 7:45, 10:25

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2	SOMETHING'S GOTTA GIVE	10:40, 1:25, 4:10, 6:55, 9:45
3	MILAN	11:20, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00
4	COLD MOUNTAIN	10:20, 1:15, 4:10, 7:05, 10:00
5	DUPLEX	10:55, 1:05, 3:15, 5:25, 7:35, 9:45
6	LOST IN TRANSLATION	12:05, 2:15, 4:25, 6:40, 9:00
7	U-BELT	11:50, 2:20, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50
8	WATER DEMON	12:30, 2:35, 4:40, 6:50, 9:00
9	KUYA	12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00
10	RUNAWAY JURY	11:10, 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50

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DOLBY DIGITAL EX

1	SOMETHING GOTTA GIVE	11:20, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00
2	COLD MOUNTAIN	10:10, 1:00, 3:50, 6:40, 9:50
3	MILAN	11:10, 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50
4	GHOST HOUSE	11:35, 1:45, 3:55, 6:05, 8:10, 10:00
5	LOST IN TRANSLATION	11:35, 1:45, 3:55, 6:05, 8:10, 10:00
6	DUPLEX	10:40, 12:40, 2:40, 4:40, 6:40, 8:35, 10:00
7	WATER DEMON	10:40, 12:50, 3:00, 5:10, 7:20, 9:40

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1	DUPLEX	10:50, 12:50, 3:50, 4:50, 6:50, 9:00
2	COLD MOUNTAIN	10:30, 12:15, 3:00, 5:45, 9:00
3	KUYA	11:20, 1:40, 4:00, 6:20, 9:00
4	U-BELT	10:50, 12:20, 2:50, 4:40, 6:50, 9:00
5	WATER DEMON	11:35, 2:00, 4:25, 6:50, 9:15
6	SOMETHING GOTTA GIVE	10:20, 12:30, 3:20, 6:10, 9:00
7	MILAN	10:35, 1:05, 3:35, 6:05, 9:00
8	GHOST HOUSE	10:05, 1:20, 3:55, 6:30, 9:05

Big R Supercenter **NOVALICHES / FAIRVIEW** 935-3229 / 31

1	DUPLEX	11:25, 1:15, 3:05, 4:55, 6:45, 8:35
2	WATER DEMON	11:40, 1:45, 3:50, 5:55, 8:10
3	KUYA	11:45, 1:55, 4:05, 6:15, 8:30
4	U-BELT	11:40, 1:45, 3:50, 5:55, 8:10
5	MILAN	12:10, 2:50, 5:30, 8:30
6	COLD MOUNTAIN	11:30, 2:30, 5:30, 8:30
7	SOMETHING'S GOTTA GIVE	11:20, 1:35, 3:50, 6:05, 8:30
8	GHOST HOUSE	11:55, 2:40, 5:25, 8:30

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1	WATER DEMON
2	MILAN
3	KUYA
4	U-BELT

big Supercenter **CAINTA** 240-4661

1	DUPLEX
2	MILAN
3	U-BELT
4	GHOST HOUSE

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3	KUYA
4	U-BELT
5	A GOOD LAWYER'S WIFE

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2	KUYA
3	WISHING STAIRS
4	MILAN
5	RUNAWAY JURY

Big R Supercenter **DASMARIÑAS** 852-2125

1	KUYA
2	WISHING STAIRS
3	RUNAWAY JURY
4	COLD MOUNTAIN
5	MILAN

Big R Supercenter **STARMILLS** San Fernando Pampanga 875-1927 / 961-5270

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2	GOOD LAWYER'S WIFE
3	KUYA
4	MILAN
5	DUPLEX
6	21 GRAMS

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1	MILAN
2	U-BELT
3	DUPLEX
4 DTS	SOMETHING GOTTA GIVE
5	WATER DEMON
6	KUYA

BACOLOD 441-0458/59

1	DUPLEX
2	HAUNTED MANSION
3	MILAN
4	CHASING LIBERTY
5	KUYA
6	THE GATHERING

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3	MILAN
4	IN THE CUT
5	KUYA
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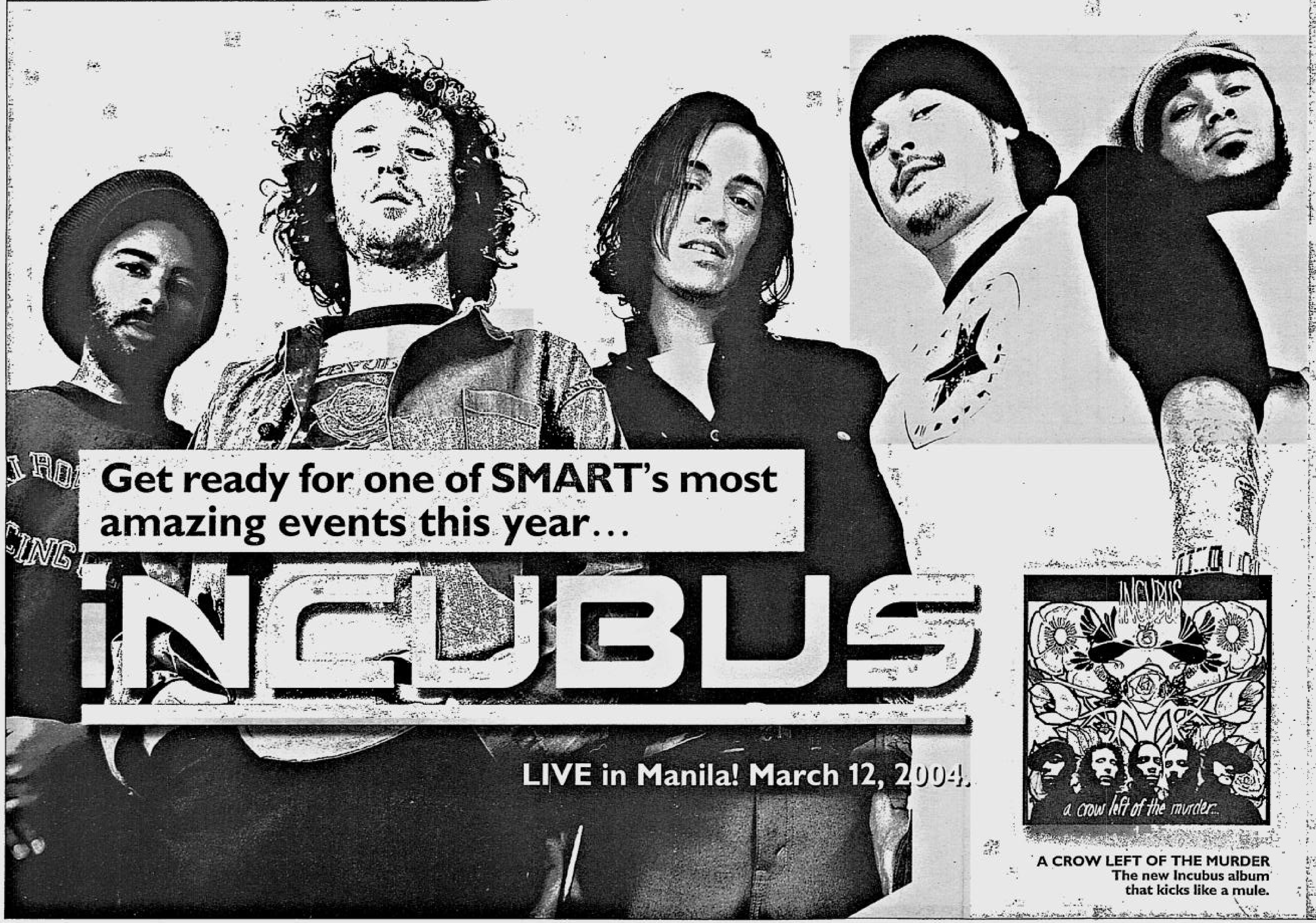

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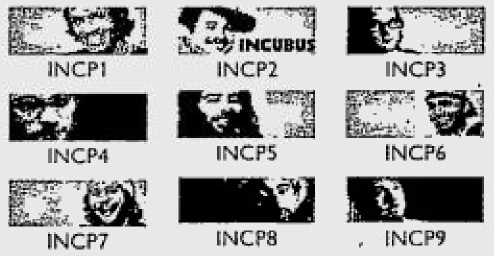

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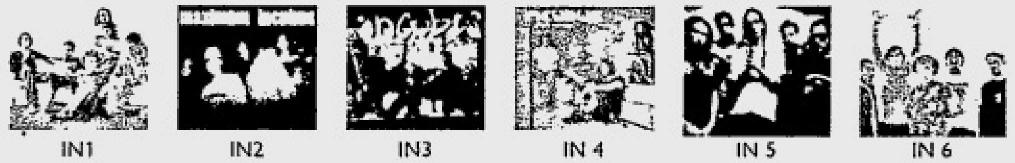

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Business Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

COUPLES IN BUSINESS–II

Mr & Ms ride roller coaster of ups, downs

By Myrna Rodriguez-Co
Contributor, UP ISSI

SO many married couples dream of being in business together. While there are no clear statistics to show how many couples succeed in putting up their own shop and how many stay in it over the long haul, it may be presumed there are quite a few who do.

A case documentation project of couples in business, which the UP Institute for Small-Scale Industries (UP ISSI) and the Small Enterprises Research and Development Foundation (Serdef) recently began, show indications that the success rate may be fairly high. Industry associations requested to name successful couples among their membership roster did not seem hard put to comply. A list of over 100 couples was put together in no time.

Initial interviews with some of the couples confirm the romantic notions associated with coupling in business. A couple rhapsodized it is among the best things that happened to their marriage. It seems so "perfect"—doing business with someone you love and trust, being together 24 hours a day, complementing each other's strengths and weaknesses. One can almost visualize the pair standing side by side looking at the same direction.

On the other hand, the same couples, however, contend that being in business together also means riding the roller-coaster of ups and downs. And when the ride gets too bumpy, the romance may fly off the window—temporarily, one hopes. Couples talk about "having to do without," "arguments that go on for days," "cold wars," "losing the romance." As one of the couples warn: "Be ready for the worst—for the possibility the business will fail."

In this issue's panel interview, the couples continue sharing their experiences—good and bad. And as many of them found out, even the "bad times" can yield a treasure underneath, if you look hard enough.

Respondent couples are:

Lorna and Ronnie Kalaw of Lokal Industries, India and Javier Legaspi of Heritage Kraft (Aklan), Pinpin and Rene Echavez of Nature's Reflection (Cebu), Mayette and Joey Santiago of Migos Fritters, Ruth and Maldwyn de Pano of Design Plus, and Aida and Chito Madroño of 13 PM Enterprises.

Q: What prompted you to start a business with your spouse?

Lorna: I had been engaged in this home business for the longest time. After nine years in corporate life, Ronnie concluded he was not going anywhere and decided to join me. He realized he had been helping other people enrich themselves. So he thought he might as well devote his efforts to our own business.

India: It just came naturally, without planning too. I had a studio that caters to arts needs like painting on piña, etc. So when the hobby became a full fledged business, it was natural that we thought of doing it together.

Mayette: When I had my first baby, I wanted to spend as much time with him as I could. Makati, where I worked as bank officer, was too far from home. And frankly, I have grown tired of being employed and wanted to try my luck in business.

Joey: So I don't have to bring Mayet to and from Makati. I thought, too, it would be great if our baby would not be left entirely to the care of his nanny.

Aida: I joined Chito in the business when there was enough work

MR & MS/B4

Strive for excellence and go where the wind takes you

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

RABUY today

RABUY with daughters Eleanor and Evita and her late husband Eddie

ELIZABETH Garcia-Rabuy was just in high school when she got her first taste of leadership.

She was chosen as one of a handful of high school students from public and private schools tasked to run the city of Manila as councilors during the Boys and Girls Week.

FIRST JOB

Rabuy may not have moved on to become an elected leader of her childhood home in Sta. Ana, Manila, but she still manages the troops as director and general manager of property management firm FPDSavills Philippines Inc., the first Filipina to hold that position.

It was a painstaking climb to the CEO post, a journey that took her through many career shifts and striking at opportunities. She pursued her drive for excellence and giving her best despite experiencing a tragedy that would have pulled down other women.

Rabuy lost her husband to a freak accident when he got caught in a crossfire between car thefts stealing his car and responding policemen. But she did not lose her faith in God, the same faith that saw her through her many successes in the corporate world.

"I never questioned why God allowed it to happen. God works in wondrous ways for when he closed a door, he also opened a window, actually a lot of windows," she says.

Rabuy says her late husband still keeps her silent but steady company, and she feels his presence as she goes about her duties. She cites the importance of having a supportive husband and God-fearing children. "A good spouse will definitely help in developing one's career, especially for Filipino women. I am lucky to have married a man who was sure of himself and confident in his own accomplishments that he allowed me to bloom. He supported me in all my endeavors instead of clipping my wings."

Credit to parents

The drive toward excellence and giving your best, she credits to her parents. Both were academicians and intellectuals, who inspired their four children to always reach for the stars. As a result, all four of them graduated valedictorian of their high school classes.

Rabuy initially wanted to become a medical technologist, but she was prevailed upon by her mother to study at St. Theresa's College, the alma mater of her two older sisters. She ended up with a Bachelor's degree in Commerce, major in Accounting.

RABUY when she started working in 1972

She thanks her mother for insisting that she take up Commerce, saying that the discipline of being a certified public accountant prepared her for bigger responsibilities as she went up the corporate ladder.

"The discipline really helps in management because you are trained to be meticulous, to look at every detail. I believe that management is all about looking at details of the entire operation of the company," she says.

Career path

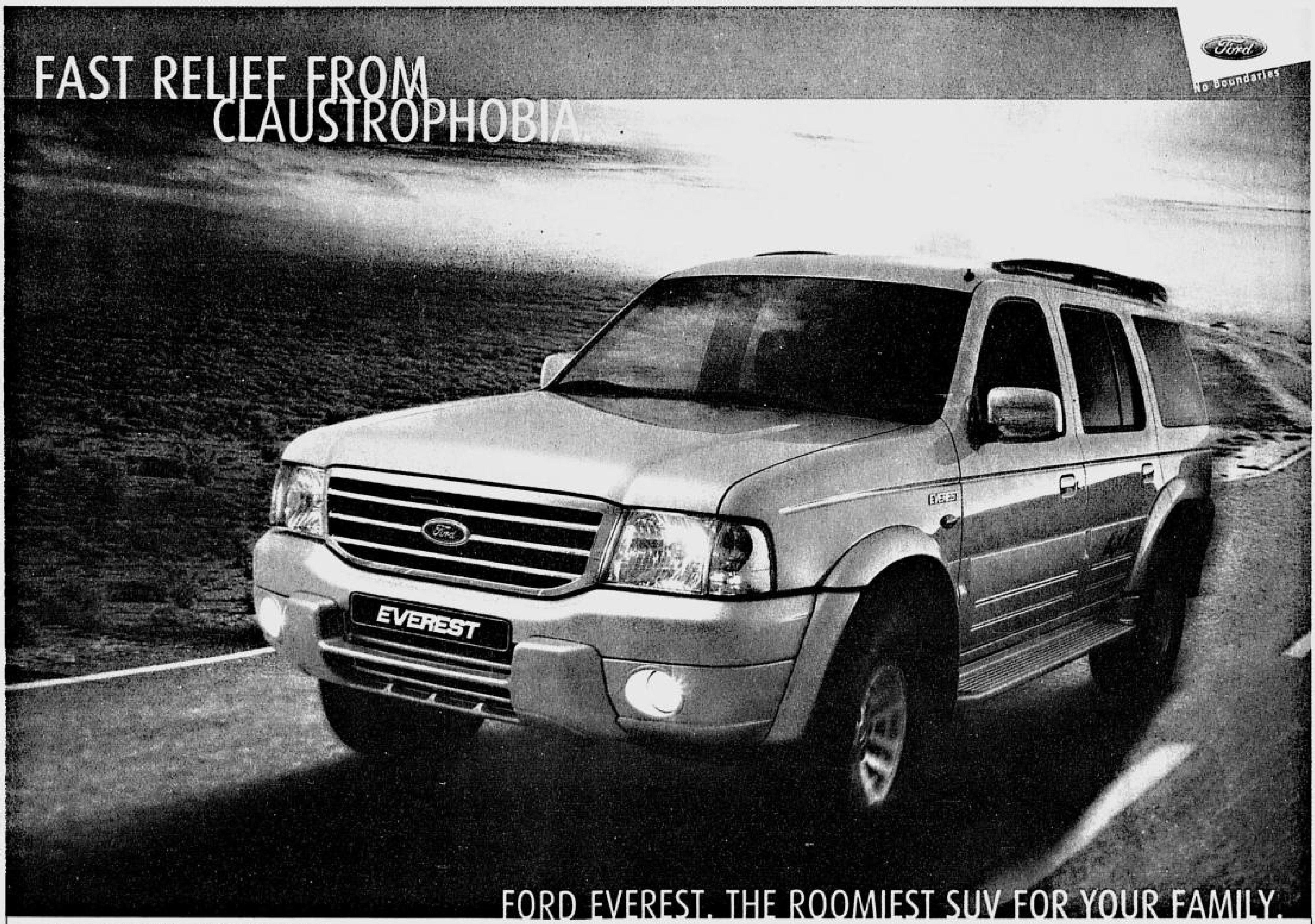
Rabuy, however, admits that she did not plan out her career or seriously set out with the ambition of someday becoming a CEO of a multinational company.

"I went where the wind would take me," she says in an interview.

Fortunately, the wind took her to the right places, landing her first in Esso Philippines where she worked as a statistical clerk, updating the wholesale prices of lube and oil products.

She did not stay there long, moving on to the Financial Executives Institute of the Philippines as an administrative manager. She stayed.there for 10 years.

STRIVE/B3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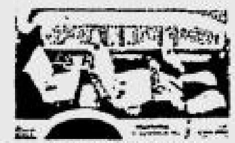

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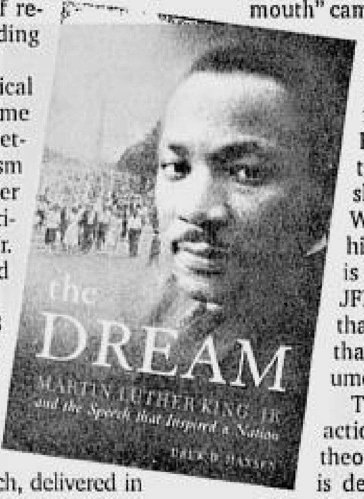
Eloquence, more than skill, must come from the heart

By Dante M. Velasco
Contributor

"The Dream"
By Drew D. Hansen
Harper Collins Publishers, 2003

IS this the autumn of discontent in our political life as a nation? Or, is there a sense of a joyous spring of hope that, one day, the Philippines will see a daybreak of redemption from its never-ending bout with crisis upon crisis?



If you sense something lyrical in the first paragraph (some would insist it is prosaic poetry), it is because some lyricism has rubbed off on me after reading "The Dream"—subtitled "Martin Luther King Jr. and the Speech that Inspired a Nation."

Yes, an entire book of 293 pages has been devoted solely to one speech that lasted for less than 30 minutes, before a crowd of 250,000, who converged at Lincoln Memorial in Washington D.C. The speech, delivered in 1963, was simply titled "I Have A Dream."

The dreamer was already felled by an assassin's bullet, but the dream energized an entire community of blacks, joined by whites—and then consequently changed forever the destiny of African Americans in America.

EXECUTIVE READ

I had read the speech long before I got hold of an audio-cassette tape that preserved the voice of the speaker—Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. There is really no substitute for listening to—not reading—a speech. All public speaking coaches or homiletic professors agree that a speech—or a sermon—must be delivered to really capture the passion and intensity it intends to convey.

This book, .unlike other books on public speaking or speech writing, has combined the illuminating study of speech content and its strategy, on one hand, and a riveting account on how the speech is delivered or subsequently altered to suit "the moment," on the other. From an academic standpoint, this is a "case study."

A bonus is a retelling of a heartwarming history up close: black men,.women and children taking the bus from various states; and then bursting into singing stirring negro spirituals; and finally puncturing the serene sky with a 250,000-voice unison crying for freedom!

The book begins with capturing the unfolding drama, including minor speakers that preceded the "main event." Thankfully, not killing us with suspense, the book brings Martin Luther King to speak on page 51, with this line: "King grasped the podium with both hands, waited a moment, and then opened his mouth to speak."

And, may I add, that from the "opened mouth" came forth one of the most glorious speeches delivered in all of human history. The book adds a sidelight: Former President John F. Kennedy, watching and listening to King on television a short distance away at the White House turned to one of his aides and said: "That guy is really good." Coming from JFK, also known for speeches that have become memorable, that compliment spoke volumes of King's talent.

This book demonstrates in action a lot of speech making theories. A chapter, for example, is devoted to "Composition." A personal touch is volunteered that King began working on the draft four days before delivering it—and then when the moment came, half of the draft was not used, giving way to a stirring, very eloquent speech.

An instructive portion is an analysis showing the "prepared speech" in one column and the "delivered speech" in another column. Visually, it shows that King was improvising even while speaking—changing words, skipping whole phrases and omitting whole paragraphs and replacing them with words that simply came forth like torrents from a mighty stream.

A couple of speech writers helped him with the first draft, but the book reveals that King was the "sole authority on his speech's content and language." When an aide insisted on a phrase, King just smiled and said: "I don't mind your criticizing my ideas. But I don't like your criticizing my words, because I'm better at words than you are." Try that on your speech writers—that is, if you really are better at words.

The speech, however, is not mere words strung together magnificently. It was a penultimate speech that communicated what King felt so deeply in his heart, fighting for equal

ELOQUENCE/ B4

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RABUY with daughters Eleanor and Evita

Strive . . .

From page B1

RABUY when she graduated from St. Theresa's College

"It was at Finex where my supervisory and management skills were honed. At a young age, I was exposed to different management styles of close to 500 of the top finance executives of the country," she says.

After that she had a challenging stint at Philippine Transmarine Carriers Inc. before she decided to give up her life as an employee and establish her own business as an event organizer.

She put her considerable expertise in handling details to the test and she went away with more clients than she expected. She organized international conferences for different organizations such as Finex, the Makati Stock Exchange and the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

"It was while doing events organizing that I was called by Metro pacific to organize and serve as head of the secretariat of the consortium that was bidding for the Global City in 1995. I was employee number one of Fort Bonifacio Development Corp. when I accepted Ricardo Pascua's offer to be his executive assistant," Rabuy says.

Her big break came when the former COO of FBDC, Bernard Durack, asked her to work in facilities management, her current field of expertise.

Leap of faith

"It was he who took a leap of faith and put his trust in me when he transferred me to city management. At that time, FBDC was setting up Bonifacio Estate Services Corp., a city management company tasked to manage Bonifacio Global City. I did not have any technical background, just guts and the willingness to do more work," she says.

Rabuy did not let her superior down and did exemplary work as part of the team that established the framework of the Global City in terms of design standards, guidelines, rules and policies.

Her achievement did not go unnoticed as FDPSavills eventually came knocking on her door in February 2002.

"I eventually moved to FPDSavills, a premier property management company in the Philippines, being the pioneer in the industry that started 14 years ago. Today, we render full property management services to four properties in Manila, Cebu and Davao," she says.

Rabuy says the constant striving for excellence and hard work are the essential ingredients for making a CEO.

"Near enough is not good enough. We should always set high standards for all aspects of what we do," she says.

Rabuy also stresses the value of fostering teamwork. She says getting people to work together is easily one of the most difficult and vital jobs of a manager.

"I tell my staff that I cannot do our job alone. We should work together. Working together works," she says.

Rabuy adds that she does not ask her staff to do things she would not do herself.

"A manager should be able to walk his talk and practice what he preaches. If I ask them to inspect a property, I will show them that I can do it myself even if I am wearing heels. I believe that if you do not show your sincerity, people will not follow," she says.

She is committed to maintaining FPDSavills' status as the premier property management company by updating and enhancing the quality of service to ensure client satisfaction.

"As for me, I am a person of simple desires. Eventually, I just want a comfortable life that will allow me to pay forward the blessings I have received by doing civic action work, and by being beside my children anytime they need me. All I want now is to see my children successful in their chosen fields and have happy family lives," she says.

RABUY with daughters Eleanor (left) and Evita

Go to a mall to put ideas on paper (or canvas)

By Irene Andrea C. Perez

CREATIVITY Lounge at the Glorietta

SAY, you have a business and a limited budget to market it, along with an idea for a logo, brochure and the materials to satisfy the visual appetite of your market. The problem is, you do not know how to put them together. Now, you can simply go to the mall, throw in your materials and let the people at the Creativity Lounge transform your ideas into something solid while enjoying your coffee.

C-Lounge president Benjamin Arroyo and partner Cez Almeda had a vision of a graphics design company where freelance designers, marketing and sales professionals, students and hobbyists can have a "creativity nook."

Located at the third level of Glorietta 3, C-Lounge offers clients with design, printing and digital publishing needs at a competitive price.

Arroyo brings the design concept to a retail environment through this e-lounge with a digital graphic technology center that has the latest graphics software and multimedia, specialty papers, stock photos and digital printing equipment.

"There is a big demand for visual graphics, but not everyone can afford an ad(vertising) agency," he says.

C-Lounge is manned by seven in-house artists to assist clients. Their services usually cost from P1,500 to P20,000, depending on the design.

"This e-lounge is an eye-opener especially for small-scale businesses because of the concept 'advertising in retail.' Now, clients may print materials according to their needs, be it a piece or hundreds," Arroyo says.

The lounge has a mini-library and a café, "to provide a friendly atmosphere to clients, and a relaxed environment to promote imagination."

Investment may be high, with a starting capital of roughly P8 million (a photo machine alone costs a million), but Arroyo says the reception is "very encouraging."

He says even well known companies, ad agencies and sub-contractors avail of their services, especially the "virtual office."

Among "instant advertising" products the lounge provides are large-format printing using canvas, photo paper, backlit-posters, vinyl sticker, claycoat and polyethylene. Photo paper is the cheapest, and canvas, the most expensive; price starts at P1.50 per square inch.

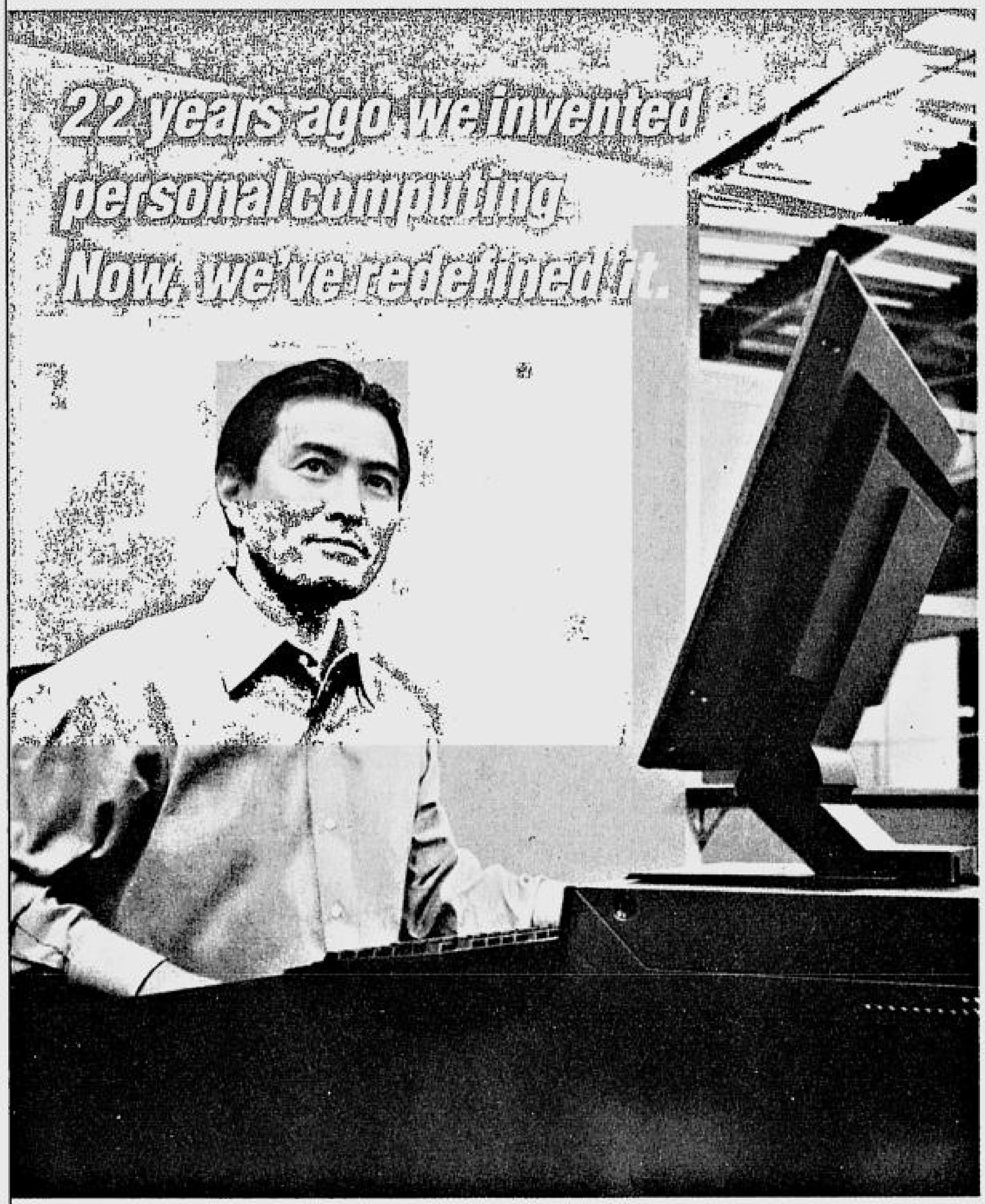
For businessmen and hobbyists, the lounge offers digital color printing: A3 (P60) and A4 (P40) full color, photo enlarging and restoration, scanning, CD burn, lamination, photocopy, computer rentals, special papers, presentation folders and storage peripherals.

Since consumers are more graphics-oriented and technology is vital to a business operation, Creativity Lounge aims to challenge individuals.

"The limit would only be your creativity," Arroyo says.

The elections are coming, would they accept printing jobs from politicians?

"Definitely no politicians," Arroyo said. (Call 7528386.)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Supermarket says thank you to suppliers

ROBINSONS Supermarket recently honored its outstanding trade partners for their exceptional service, support and sales performance for 2003. The 2003 Trade Partners of the Year Awards night was held at the Holiday Inn Galleria Manila.

Declared overall winner was Colgate-Palmolive Phil., which received the highest honor, the Platinum Award. Colgate officials Antonio Campos, president and general manager; Ronald Roldan, national sales manager; Raymund Penaflorida, group customer marketing manager; Dessa Yu-See, account manager; Ian Santos, key account manager; and Luis Neira, sales director accepted the award from Robinsons Supermarket's executives.

ROBINSONS Supermarket Corp. FVP and GM Ronnie Ong (left) and Regina Gokongwei Pe, SVP (5th from left) with the officers of the Gold Award winners.

Gold Award winners, meanwhile, were Nestle Phils. Inc., Universal Robina Corp. and Unilever Phils. Inc. Rounding up the top 10 nominees for the Gold Award were Procter & Gamble Phils. Inc.; Mead Johnson Phils. Inc.; Monde Nissin Corp.; California Manufacturing Co. Inc.; McKenzie Distribution Inc.; and Johnson & Johnson (Phils.) Inc.

Silver Award recipients, on the other hand, were Nestle Phils.-Ice Cream Division, Masterfoods Phils. Inc. and Foodsphere Inc.. The other nominees for the award were United Laboratories Inc.; Selecta Walls Inc.; Gardenia Bakeries (Phils.) Inc.; RFM Corp.; Philusa Corp.; Del Monte Phils. Inc.; and Composite Group of Companies.

Apple Awards, meanwhile, were handed out to the most outstanding concessionaire/suppliers of Robinsons Supermarket's fresh department. Apple awardees were San Miguel Foods Inc. and JED Marketing Corp.

Robinsons Supermarket has 13 branches nationwide. It also operates Robinsons Choice in Eastwood, Libis, Quezon City.

Eloquence, more than skill . . .

From page B2

rights for the black. It was delivered with great courage, but issuing from a fear for his wife and children—and for the entire nation. There is no doubt that every word came from a heart "seared by the flames of injustice."

The rest of the book is a series of analyses that would be useful to speech writers, language teachers and speakers—who must know some rhetorical devices for impact and "effect." As many books on public speaking are saying, however, there is no substitute for the authentic voice in the speaker. A speech that one does not believe in will not hold.

This is a timely thought as the political season has begun. Some commercials have already parodied the empty promises of politicians. Some are recycling movie scripts and are keeping people under the spell of myths and fiction. People have also lamented that even those who benefited from the destruction of our freedoms are seeking to benefit from the restored liberties they themselves systematically destroyed.

And yet there are new voices in the political scene. A kindred soul of Martin Luther King, himself trained in the passion and cadence of the Scriptures, is sending a message of hope "hewed from the mountain of despair" (King's words). Maybe it's time all our presidentiables delivered a speech entitled "I Have a Dream." And the people will listen—and find out who, indeed, speaks from heart and soul like Martin Luther King.

Meanwhile, we continue to dream, too, that our present crop of leaders speak once again like Martin Luther King. My father talked to me about the likes of Camilo Osias, Soc Rodrigo, et al. Of course, there was a Filipino hero in 1983 (assassinated too), Benigno Ninoy Aquino, who fired the imagination and rekindled the courage of the nation. It's 2004, however, and the question is: Who is the next hero—one who has both vision and the eloquence to speak of the nation's wounded heart? One who can hold more than a million listeners in rapt attention to what he says.

Whoever will be our next hero, alive preferably, he must draw inspiration from the closing statement of this book: "King's legacy is the gift of prophecy: a vision of what a redeemed America might look like ... The arc of the moral universe is indeed long, but it bends toward justice. This dream can sustain us yet."

(dantemv@i-next.net)

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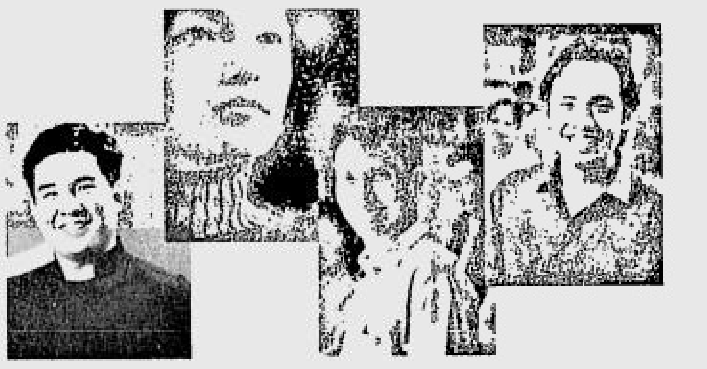

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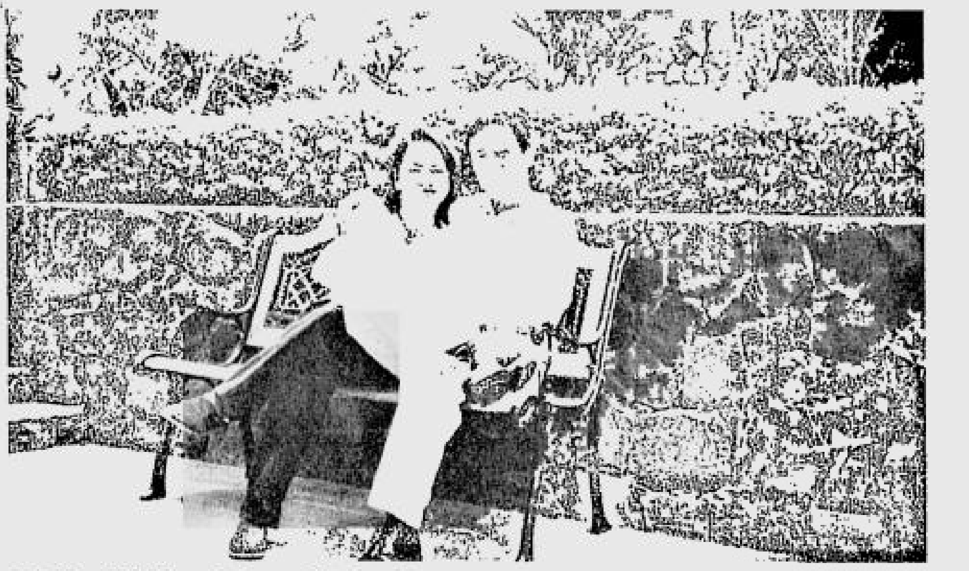


RUTH and Maldwyn de Pano of Design Plus

Mr. & Ms. ride roller coaster of ups, downs

From page B1

that could be done more effectively by two persons, and when we were ready to take the risk of both of us not having a stable salary.

Rene: Before we married, Pinpin was already making handmade paper dolls and Christmas decors. I have full confidence in her creative ability and work ethics, which prompted me to go into business with her.

Ruth: In the beginning, there was no intention to go into business. We were both working, Maldwyn as an artist in a government office, I, as a schoolteacher. But as we began our family, we needed to cope with the financial demands of a growing family. And I suppose Maldwyn have always had too much drive and talent to stay put as an employee. So, he began Bread of Life, a supplier of greeting cards. Later, he studied the printing press business.

Maldwyn: Rather than employ somebody else, I persuaded Ruth to resign from teaching so we could be in it together. At the beginning, it was really the economics of the thing. *Mas makakamura.*

Q: How did you determine how you would work together? Is it important to have separate duties, separate offices?

Mayette: According to one's expertise and experience. Having worked with a bank, I do most of the financial stuff. Joey on the other hand, is basically the businessman between us, so he handles the operation side. We have two other partners who help us in the financial and operation aspect. Yes, it is important to have separate duties so differences and arguments would be minimized. Separate offices would be great—but we cannot afford that at the moment.

Joey: Separate duties are essential to avoid finger-pointing when wrong decisions are made. I do believe, though, that there should only be one captain of the ship.

Rene: There should be separate duties, a clear-cut definition of roles. But we solicit advice from each other.

India: It was like automatic. We know exactly our roles without talking about it. As an artist, I do designing, product development, marketing promotions. Javier, who is an engineer, is good at management, costing and pricing, systems, procedures, etc.

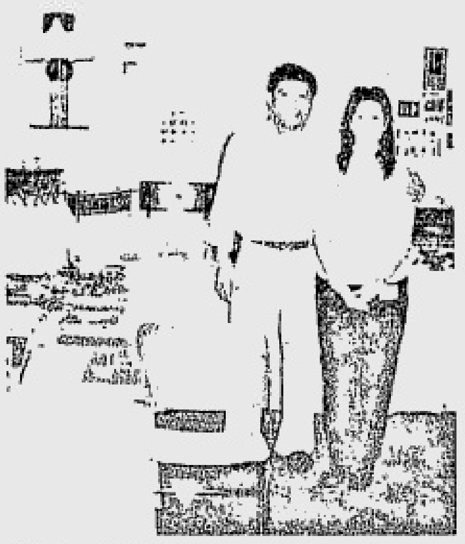
Lorna: At the beginning, determining who's really the boss was a nightmare. Ronnie often spoke of theories and principles from his educational background, while I always defended from the standpoint of my tested experience. So our separate duties evolved out of our determined effort to give both our best to the business. We divided tasks based on our individual competence. We tried to keep to our assignments, but when major decisions have to be done, we sit down and tackle the matter together.

Yes, we keep separate office spaces. Ronnie tells me I talk too much and laugh too loud over the phone and he gets distracted. But I tell him that's how I get big orders.

Aida: Our division of work is dictated by our interests and personal traits. I like looking at existing product designs/uses and think how these can be innovated and improved. Chito is the gregarious type who loves talking to people. So I ended up taking care of product development and he, talking with suppliers and buyers.

Chito: Things fell into place, without too much effort to delineate. It's teamwork at work.

RONNIE and Lorna Kalaw of Lokal Industries



RENE and Pinpin Echavez of Nature's Reflection International

Maldwyn: It is very important to have separate duties, so there is no overlapping of work. I wasn't that eager to have my own space. But later on I realized having our own rooms each would make both of us more productive. Clients also become more open if they can talk to you in private.

Ruth: Maldwyn minds it so much when the phone keeps ringing. It disturbs his creative work. In his own private office, he would not pick up the phone if he's engrossed in what he is doing.

Q: How did you cope with the initial ups and downs, including the financial instability, of a new business?

Joey: We took one step at a time, one problem a time. If we couldn't solve it for the day, we leave it and tackle the next problem. But we made sure no problem was left unattended for long. We hedged against the financial instability by avoiding overspending. We never counted the chicks before they were out of the shell.

Mayette: It has been very difficult. Until now, we're still trying to cope with all sorts of problems. We try to settle problems democratically—we get the consensus of our board of directors. That way, Joey and I avoid getting into each other's nerves and eventually kill each other.

Rene: Initially, it was like bringing up a baby—we gave it all of our time. As the business grew, we were able to delegate some of the responsibilities to workers.

Lorna: We borrowed when we needed to. It was never hard for us to get credit because we have good rapport with our creditors.

Ruth: We coped through good financial planning. We studied our cash flow meticulously. We tightened our belts. If we had to do without a lot of things, we did without.

Chito: We would look for solutions to a problem, not make a problem of a problem. We were able to cope with ups and downs by squarely addressing them.

India: Sales from my artworks were very handy when the business needed financing. We also dipped into Javier's savings from his contract work in Saudi Arabia as systems analyst. Our parents were also available for financial help. I guess we're lucky because we have a positive attitude towards work. We were happy doing things together. Most of all, we coped with God's help.

Q: Are there times or spaces when talking shop is taboo?

Chito: There are no off-limit times or spaces when business cannot be discussed. We can talk business at the dining table, inside our car, even at the movies.

Aida: There are none. We like what we are doing.

Maldwyn: When we were struggling together, we tried hard to find the time to talk about business and family separately. We sometimes ended up not talking to each other. During a "cold war," I would communicate with Ruth through a memo. How silly we both behaved! It affected the whole business. For a time, we lost the romance.

Ruth: Now we know that as long as the relationship works, all things will fall into place. No need to confine work from family.

Mayette: Yes, once in a while.

Joey: We don't talk business only when we're asleep or are engrossed in a good show or movie.

Pinpin: We even make it a point to discuss the business with our two kids.

India: It's anytime whenever we want to talk shop.

(Send comments to: myrna.co@up.edu.ph)

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Actor goes into a thumbs up venture

OCHOA

DOMINIC Ochoa is the first to point out that being an actor is a big plus in his new life role as entrepreneur.

More than his Business Administration degree (from the University of Santo Tomas), it was his seven-year stint in showbiz that equipped him with the vital lessons he now applies in his ice cream venture, Thumbs Up!

"It all boils down to professionalism," he explains. He credits his business partners for teaching him the ropes in the business. "These were the same people who teamed up with (the late) Rico Yan and made a success out of Orbitz (pearl shake drinks). I get to ask them things that you don't read in textbooks and study in school. This is actual, hands-on business experience."

After almost a year of operations (Thumbs Up! opened last June), Dominic discovered a lot about the perks and perils of doing business. "It's really a big risk," he concedes. "Even in a sure thing like the food business, you need to be careful. Especially now, with the state of the economy. So I've realized that if you're going to expand, you better do it slowly but surely."

Although he acknowledges that it has not become a raging fad like Orbitz, he insists that he's in business for the long haul. Being judicious in their expansion plans helped them withstand the current global economic crisis.

"After barely a year, we now have 20 outlets," he pipes up. "And we get a lot of inquiries for franchises at our office number, 687-3436."

Outlets include SM malls.

Although there are a lot of ice-cream stalls out there, Dominic firmly believes that Thumbs Up! stands out. "It's a novelty. It's small and cute. You get five ice cream cones in one. You can choose to have just one flavor or five different flavors for only P25."

Moreover, they offer quality ice cream. "It's also from Nestlé," he affirms. "It's high-quality and we follow strict hygienic standards."

As vice president for marketing, Dominic does a little office work but he noticed that his forte in the corporate set-up is publicity and promotions.

Being cooped up in the office from 9 to 5 is not his cup of tea. "That's why I gave part of the business to my sister Christine (Ochoa)," he proffers. "She's the one who's based in the office."

Being a true people person, Dominic prefers to do field work, dealing directly with both employees and customers. He even does surprise inspections and sells ice cream in the malls. (The outlets double their income whenever he's around.)

"I drop by our stalls early in the morning when the malls have just opened for the day," he recounts. When the staffers least expect it, Dominic would show up "to see if they are sticking to regulations. If they are wearing the proper uniform and hairnet."

Although he's always a comic on television (especially on his two ABS-CBN TV shows Whattamen! and Teysi), Dominic, the employer, means business. He can be very particular about rules and procedures.

The bottom line is to be a fair and honest boss, he believes. "This is what I've noticed in myself," he elaborates, "I can be a kind boss, friendly and approachable, but when it comes to work, I am serious. I am patient, but I can also be strict. Three strikes with me and you're out." It's primarily because Dominic values each and every single centavo he puts in his business.

"I work hard for my money," he reiterates. "It's not like I've asked for it from my parents. Since I've worked hard for it, I am willing to work hard also to see my investments earn."

He offers advice to other aspiring entrepreneurs. "Invest wisely," he counsels. "And with the right people. Especially since there are a lot of unscrupulous people out there. Use your head before you part with your hard-earned cash."

Quitting medicine for farming

By Jeffrey M. Tupas
PDI Mindanao Bureau

DR. Fe Rizalie Etulle

KIDAPAWAN CITY—She traded a profession that saves lives for one which creates life from the earth.

Dr. Fe Rizalie Etulle, 40, worked in a hospital in Iligan City for seven years before shifting her time and money into an unknown field. Because she thought Kidapawan City is gifted with agriculture potentials, Etulle dropped her job in Iligan to work full-time as farmer.

In 1998, she acquired a 3.5-hectare land in Barangay Sibawan here and initially planted it with mangosteen. Four years later, the Etulle family expanded the small property into a 15-hectare farm. Aside from *mangosteen*, they planted *rambutan*, *lanzones*, banana and *durian*.

Etulle's farm is now one of the biggest farms in Kidapawan. And she is the only known woman durian farmer in North Cotabato who does the job "hands-on."

For Etulle, plunging into agriculture is a dream come true for her and her husband who want to leave their children a legacy.

"We dream of a good future for them and we believe that because farming lasts, this is a good project for the kids," she says.

PINOY ENTREPRENEUR

But it was not at all easy for Etulle. While their farm was struggling, her husband had to leave for the US to work. The physician had to learn important aspects of agriculture herself by attending seminars and trainings.

As the farm grew, Etulle faced hurdles including costly agrochemicals and fertilizers, and diseases that adversely affected the farm's fruit production.

But she persevered and drew strength from the richness of her farm's soil. The land is also blessed with good surface drainage and irrigation.

In June or August, the farm is expected to yield at least three tons of durian and five tons of rambutan.

The expected durian haul bring in more than P150,000 for the couple. This will be the third cropping of durian in the Etulle farm.

While the farm is located at the foot of Mt. Apo, where there is enough distribution of rainfall, the farm is known for phytophthora incidence. Phytophthora is a fungal disease that afflicts trees and causes the most serious problem in farming.

The onset of phytophthora brought another twist to the profession of Etulle. She had been taking care of sick people before and so she learned to take care of sick trees.

Imelda Consolacion, a technical assistant of the Growth Equity in Mindanao (GEM) says the damage of Phytophthora was probably aggravated by closer planting, with trees planted at 6 x 8 meters apart from each other, and the existence of young coconut trees and *lakatan* bananas as intercrops.

Because of the high incidence of the fungal disease, GEM sent in to work with Etulle durian-expert and University of Southern Mindanao (USM) agriculturist Dr. Pablito Pamplon who studied ways to combat the disease.

Eventually, the farm recovered.

Because of this problem, Etulle said, many durian growers in Kidapawan and in North Cotabato were discouraged to continue growing durian.

The farm represents the typical potentials and problems of the more than 300 hectares of durian in Kidapawan City, Consolacion says.

Another problem of fruit growers in Mindanao is the oversupply of fruits and the lack of market. The Mindanao farmers also have to compete with imported fruits like apples and grapes in the month of December.

When there is oversupply of fruits, rambutan can go as low as P5 per kilogram while durian can be bought at P25 per kilogram. When it is a durian season, one buys the fruit at P30-P40 per kilogram. During off season, the fruit can be bought at P45-P55 per kilogram.

"Farming is really difficult. You have to very patient and resourceful to meet the standards and quality of the product. You also have to be persistent in addressing diseases," she says.

While Etulle is waiting for the harvest in July, a Manila-based fruit distributor has already put the expected haul under contract. The fruit distributor will deliver Etulle's product in various malls and supermarkets in Manila.

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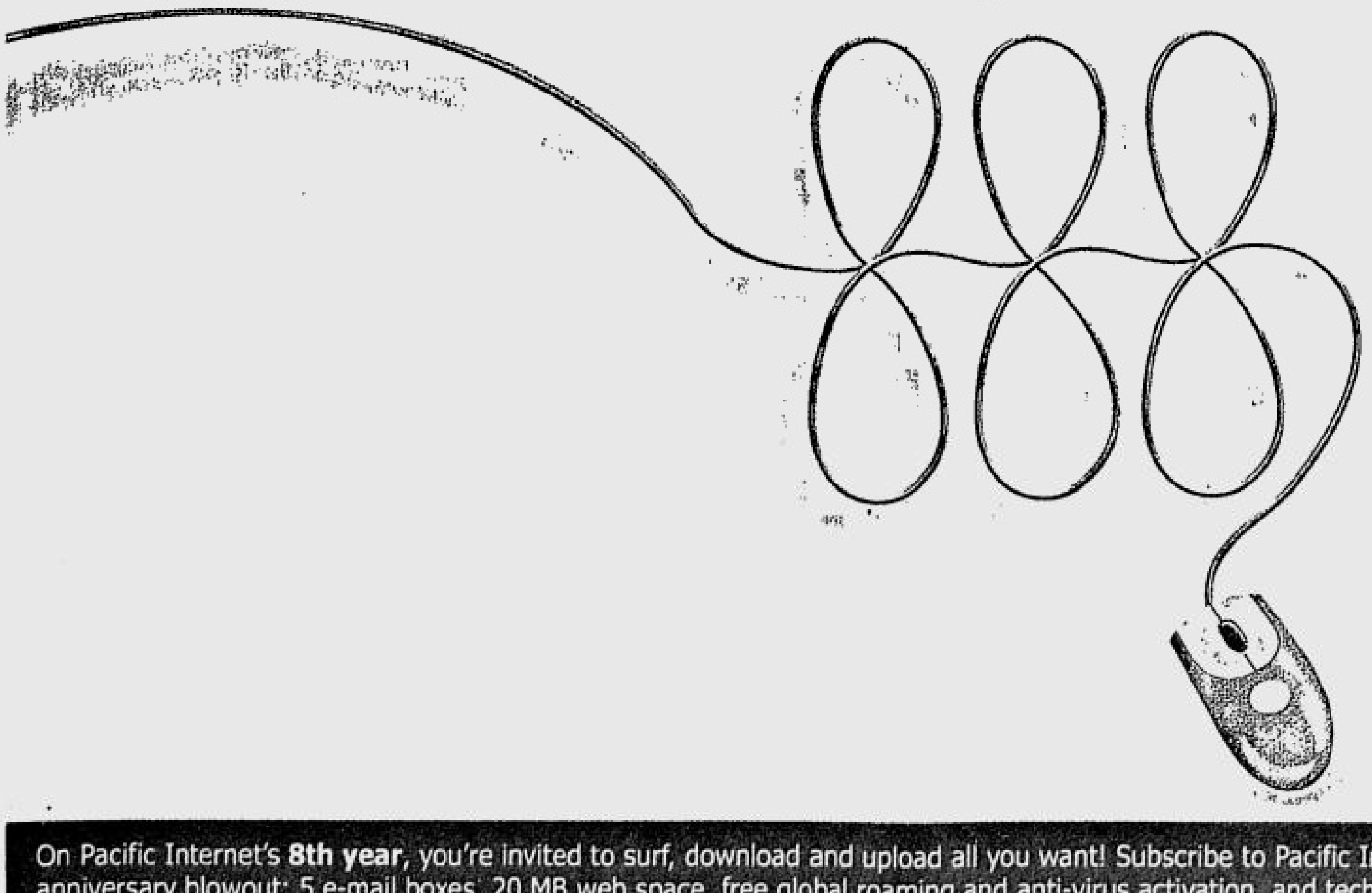

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People, Events & Products

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Editor **Aries Espinosa**

Globe and BancNet collaborate for Mobile Banking Service

MOBILE innovations leader Globe Telecom has partnered with BancNet, the largest ATM network in the Philippines, to introduce the Globe-BancNet Mobile Banking Service, a secure electronic-based system that will allow Globe subscribers to access their bank accounts through their Globe Handyphones wherever they may be.

Globe subscribers who have bank accounts with any of BancNet's roster of 33 member banks will soon enjoy the advantage of using their Globe Handyphones for Balance Inquiry, Fund Transfer, Prepaid Card Reload, Bills Payment, Checkbook Reorder and other banking transactions.

According to Chinky Alcedo, Globe VP for marketing, "We are always developing compelling services to provide our subscribers utmost convenience. This is why we are partnering with the largest ATM network in the Philippines. Through the joint-efforts with BancNet, our subscribers will soon be able to access their ATM accounts with a BancNet member bank using their Handyphones."

BancNet chair Angelito Villanueva adds "The latest offering is a testimony to both companies' long standing commitment to provide practical, but highly secure and reliable services to their common customers."

Globe Telecom is a full service telecommunications provider that operates the Philippines' largest GSM (Global System for Mobile) communications network. Owned and operated by Ayala Corporation and Singapore Telecom International, it offers services such as digital wireless, international telephony, inter-exchange carrier (IXC) service, data communications and Internet services.

On the other hand, Globe's newest partner, BancNet, is a leading ATM network of banks belonging to the top tier local universal banks, established international and regional banks, and rural banks with a consortium of over 2,000 ATMs serving over 4 million cardholders nationwide. It is currently the only multi-bank and multi-payments network in the country.

Signing the MOA for Mobile Banking Service are Fernando P. Teodoro, head of data products development of Globe Telecom's new products development group, Cecile T. Cruzabra, head of the treasury division of Globe Telecom finance and administration group, Ricardo Chua, BancNet president, and Angelito Villanueva, BancNet chair.

Welcome Guests & Participants
Signing of Memorandum of Commitment and Support for

NESTLÉ SUPPORTS DOH 'LIGTAS TIGDAS' CAMPAIGN

Nestlé Philippines supports the Department of Health (DOH) 'Ligtas Tigdas' Campaign by providing vest and logistics support for health workers nationwide. Shown in photo during the launch of DOH Ligtas Tigdas are (from left): World Health Organization country representative Dr. Jean Marc Olive, Dr. Antonio Golez, DOH Secretary Manuel Dayrit, Nestogen PreBio brand manager Claire David, and Nestlé medical relations manager Lennie Aguirre.

WELCOME TO PRINT TOWN
PDI NEWSPAPER DEALERS & GUESTS...
ON THE NMCDAP's 1st NATIONAL CONVENTION
GREETINGS FROM: THE LARGEST CIRCULATED NEWSPAPER

NMCDAP 1ST NATIONAL CONVENTION

Members of the Newspaper, Magazine and Comics Dealers Association of the Philippines (NMCDAP) opened their 1st National Convention with a printing plant tour at the Print Town Complex, printers of the Philippine Daily Inquirer, located in Mamplasan, Biñan, Laguna. The main topic of the convention was the future of the newspaper industry in the country. Shown in photo flashing the 'No. 1' sign are the newsdealers upon their arrival at the Complex together with the key officers of the circulation division of the Philippine Daily Inquirer and the Print Town Group.

Brands close to your heart

THROUGH the years, Sara Lee Direct Selling Philippines has been providing Filipino consumers with a wide range of well-known brands that have proven themselves worthy of consumers' trust and confidence.

Although the company initially made headway with its line of Playtex undergarments and its Colour Collection and Beauty Touch cosmetics, in time it expanded its product range to include some of the world's most-respected household names such as Hanes, Wonderbra, Champion, Zwitsal and Kiwi, to name a few. These new products include baby products, skin care products, fragrances, toiletries, casual wear, nutritional supplements, coffee, tea and even home care products. It's a virtual one-stop-shop for any family's basic everyday needs - products that cater to babies, kids, teen-agers, young adults and mature men and women.

Thanks to its extensive dealer network, the company's diverse and affordable product line soon became a staple in many a Filipino household - at the same time providing a viable alternative source of income for its hardworking dealers.

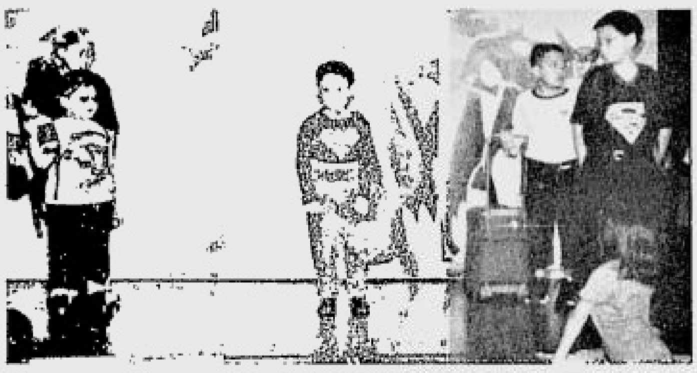
It's not surprising how majority of Sara Lee's satisfied customers are regularly at their dealers' outlets for the latest product releases.

As Sara Lee Direct Selling Philippines celebrates its 11th anniversary this February, the company reaffirms its commitment to bringing nothing but the best world-class brands and products to Filipino consumers. And in keeping with the forthcoming season of love, Sara Lee toasts to romance and continues to endear itself to even more customers through its brands that are close to the heart.

E EBDANE JR
AND SPEAKER
2004

EXPORT & INDUSTRY BANK CHAIR RECEIVES AWARD

Shown is Export and Industry Bank chair Sergio Ortiz Luis Jr. receiving a plaque of appreciation from PDGen Hermogenes Ebdane Jr., PNP Chief; and PDir Recardo De Leon, Regional Director, NCRPO; for serving as one of the advisors in the council of elders of the Naktaf during the NCRPO-PNP anniversary last Jan. 31 at the Grandstand of Camp Bagong Diwa, Bicutan, Taguig, Metro Manila.

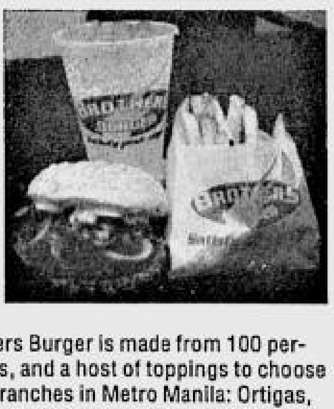


SUPER HERO POWER ZONE AT THE SHANGRI-LA

It was a holiday treat for kids at Shangri-La Plaza with the recently concluded Justice League Power Zone exhibit. It was one long week for aficionados of the most beloved superheroes. The line up of action-packed activities appealed to kids and adults alike. The two-week event was capped by a kiddie fashion show. Kids strutted their stuff in their favorite superhero costumes.

ProductFILES

Brothers suggestion for March and April



BROTHERS Burger with onions, mushroom and teriyaki sauce is Brothers Burgers suggestion for the month of March and April. Bite into deliciously prepared, flame-grilled, 100 percent pure beef burger topped with sautéed onions, mushroom and teriyaki sauce. This specially designed burger for the month of March and April comes with French fries and 16oz drink of your choice for only P125. Save as much as P38 with this offer. Brothers Burger is made from 100 percent pure beef, flame-grilled patties, and a host of toppings to choose from. Brothers Burger has seven branches in Metro Manila: Ortigas, Rockwell, Pasong Tamo, Alabang, The Loop, Greenhills, The Fort and one in Camp John Hay, Baguio City. All branches are open daily from 10 a.m. to 12 midnight and also accept deliveries.

Clips

AIM anniversary

THE ASIAN Institute of Management (AIM) marks its anniversary with "Leadership Week" kicks-off with the AIM Leadership Cup Golf Tournament for alumni and friends of AIM. The tourney will be played on March 3 at the Manila Southwoods Golf & Country Club in Carmona, Cavite. The highlight of the Week is AIM's 1st International Leadership Conference on March 4 at the SGV Hall of the AIM Conference Center. The AIM then presents the 'Triple A' and the 'Honor and Prestige' awards to outstanding alumni at the AIM's Philippine Conference Hall on March 5. The event is also a toast to the Pearl Celebrants of Class '74 and the Silver Jubilarians of Class '79, as well as thanksgiving for alumni fund donors. The Grand Alumni Homecoming party will cap the festivities on March 5, 6:30 p.m., at the Forbes Town Center, Global City, The Fort. For more details on this weeklong affair, please contact the AIM Alumni Association office at 750-1010 locals 2103 to 2106 or 750-6575.

'Creating a Winning Image'

BB. Pilipinas Universe 2002, Karen Agustin, will share some secrets of winners in a seminar entitled "Creating a Winning Image". It is slated on March 2, 1 to 5 p.m. at Traders Hotel, Roxas Blvd., Pasay City. This workshop is especially designed for anyone who wants to create a winning image, corporate people, and even those in showbiz. It is sponsored by Porter and Miles Inc, a premier training company on business, management, marketing, sales and human resource development with office address at Suite 2502-C Tektite Tower East, Ortigas Center. Call Mercy at 638-7719 to 20 for more information. Limited seats only.

Spain holds expo

THE SPANISH Chamber of Commerce (La Camara) and the Commercial Office of Spain is set to hold the first "Spanish Products and Services Expo" in the country from March 4 to 7 inside the sprawling SM Megamall. The 4-day event is aimed at increasing public awareness towards some of Spain's finest products and services that are currently available in the local market. The public is invited to visit the expo and get a glimpse of Spain's world-famous foods, wines, commercial and industrial products. Visitors can also purchase products and do business with participating companies. Those interested to participate in the expo may contact Fairs and More Inc at 845-1324 and 759-6680 or email spain@fairsandmore.com.ph.

Academic Review Program

MSA Academic Advancement Institute will be conducting its College Entrance Test Review and its High School Entrance Test Review starting this March at its learning center branches and in schools. These are designed to prepare the students to pass the college and the high school entrance examinations conducted by top universities and schools. Aside from these, MSA Academic Advancement Institute is also conducting its review classes for Grade School and Pre-school entrance examinations. For details, please call at 435-6062 or 925-7544.

MOA
Project
Hon. Fe
Belmonte, Jr.
and Phin
Holding Corporation
PHINMA

SUNNY VILLAS MOA SIGNING

A memorandum of agreement was recently signed between Quezon City government officials and Phinma Property Holdings Corp (PPHC), developer of Sunny Villas Condominium. Sunny Villas is a 1.4 hectare Mediterranean-inspired condominium development nestled in the heart of Quezon City. PPHC is committed to provide quality but affordable condominium units in Metro Manila. Shown (standing, from left) are architect Magat - QC City Planner, Councilor Liban, and Councilor Jorge Banal. Seated (from left) are lawyer Christian Valencia, Willie Uy - PPHC president and CEO, Vice Mayor Herbert Bautista, Quezon City Mayor Feliciano Belmonte Jr., Oscar Hidalgo - PPHC chair and Ricky Siton - PPHC planning AVP.

PAS 20TH ANNIVERSARY

The Public Affairs Service (AFPRescom) celebrated its 20th anniversary of existence in simple rites held at the AFPRescom headquarters at Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City. During the ceremonies, loyalty awards and service awards were distributed to members of PAS.

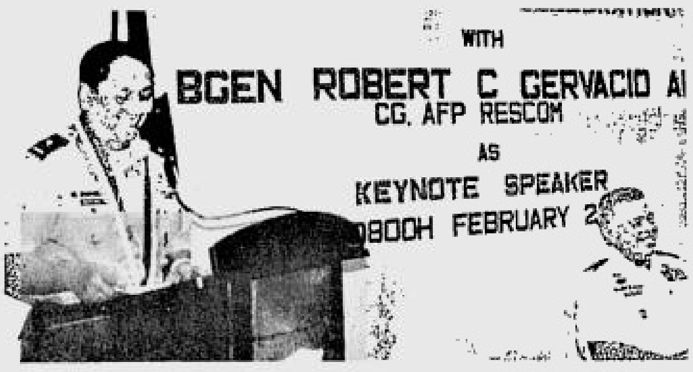


Photo shows Brig. Gen. Robert Gervacio, commanding general of AFPRescom giving his speech, as guest of honor of the ceremonies. In the background to the right is Col. J.G. Cabarrus, PAF Commander PAS.

SISC NURSING SCHOOL FORGES TIES WITH AHMC

Southville International School and Colleges (SISC) has signed a memorandum of agreement with the Asian Hospital and Medical Center (AHMC) to provide SISC College of Nursing students quality clinical training and learning experiences in a world-class hospital during the most updated technology and equipment. With the tie-up, SISC Nursing students are assured of adequate clinical training including the use of modern clinical equipment that upholds quality patient care, and related learning experiences on the rules, regulations, policies and standards of a world-class hospital.

Republic of the Philippines
COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS
Manila

RULES AND REGULATIONS ON LOCAL ABSENTEE VOTING IN CONNECTION WITH THE MAY 10, 2004 NATIONAL AND LOCAL ELECTIONS
x - x

ABALOS, BENJAMIN S.	CHAIRMAN
JAVIER, RUFINO S.B.	COMMISSIONER
SADAIN, MEHOL K.	COMMISSIONER
BORRA, RESURRECCION Z.	COMMISSIONER
TUASON, JR. FLORENTINO A.	COMMISSIONER
GARCILLANO, VIRGILIO O.,	COMMISSIONER
BARCELONA, JR., MANUEL A.	COMMISSIONER

Promulgated: 27 February 2004

RESOLUTION NO. 6637

The Commission on Elections, pursuant to the powers vested in it by the Constitution, the Omnibus Election Code, Republic Act No. 7166, Executive Order No. 157 (EO 157) issued on March 30, 1987 and other pertinent election laws, RESOLVED to promulgate, as it hereby promulgates, the following rules and regulations on local absentee voting.

SECTION 1. Local absentee voting, defined. — Local absentee voting, as provided for under EO 157 and Republic Act No. 7166, refers to a system of voting whereby government officials and employees, including members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and the Philippine National Police (PNP), who are duly registered voters, are allowed to vote for the positions of President, Vice-President, Senators and Party-List Representatives in places where they are not registered voters but where they are temporarily assigned to perform election duties on election day.

SECTION 2. Who are entitled to avail of local absentee voting. — Local absentee voting shall be exercised by: a) government officials and employees; b) members of the AFP; and c) members of the PNP, who are duly registered voters and who, on election day, may temporarily be assigned in connection with the performance of election duties to places where they are not registered voters.

Government officials and employees posted abroad to perform election duties on election day may also vote *in absentia*: *Provided*, That they are registered voters under Republic Act No. 8189, otherwise known as "The Voter's Registration Act of 1996"; *Provided further*, That they are not registered overseas absentee voters under Republic Act No. 9189, otherwise known as "The Overseas Absentee Voting Act of 2003".

SECTION 3. Positions to be voted for. — Only the positions for President, Vice-President, Senators and Party-List Representatives shall be voted for under the local absentee voting.

SECTION 4. Committee on Local Absentee Voting (CLAV). — A Committee on Local Absentee Voting (CLAV) is hereby created composed of the following:

1) Commissioner-In-Charge/Chairman of the Committee on Overseas Absentee Voting as Chairman;
2) Director III of the Electoral Contests Adjudication Department as Vice-Chairman;
3) Director III of the Election Records and Statistics Department as member; and
4) Attorney VI, Investigation and Prosecution Division of the Law Department, as member.

SECTION 5. Powers and functions of the Committee on Local Absentee Voting (CLAV). — The Committee on Local Absentee Voting (CLAV) shall have the following functions:

a) Supervise the implementation of the local absentee voting;
b) Receive applications for local absentee voting;
c) Verify whether the applicants are eligible for local absentee voting;
d) Act on applications for local absentee voting;
e) Transmit to the concerned Provincial Election Supervisors (PES) or to the Regional Election Director of National Capital Region (RED-NCR) for Metro Manila based the following: (i) list of approved applications for local absentee voting, and (ii) the exact number of local absentee ballots corresponding to the number of approved applications, inner and outer envelopes, and paper seals. The PES/RED-NCR shall in turn transmit the same to the head of office/supervisor/battalion or station commander ("commander");
f) Receive and take custody, under proper receipt, the accomplished local absentee ballots and other related documents from the head of office/supervisor/commander concerned or his authorized representative; thereafter, to group in bundles of 300 the local absentee ballots in the order of receipt;
g) Appoint members of the Special Board of Election Inspectors (SBEIs);
h) Deliver the local absentee ballots contained in a ballot box immediately after the close of voting on May 10, 2004 to the SBEIs for counting;
i) Supervise the counting of ballots and canvassing of votes;
j) Receive for safekeeping all ballot boxes containing the counted ballots and related election documents from the SBEIs and Special Board of Canvassers (SBOC) for local absentee voting.
k) Send notice of the approved applications for local absentee voting to all Election Officers (EOs) concerned with a directive to indicate in the list of voters with voting records, specifically on the space opposite the names of the qualified local absentee voters, the following annotation: **"voting thru local absentee voting"**, in order to prevent de-activation.

SECTION 6. Procedure for filing of application for local absentee voting. — a) Not later than March 15, 2004, the head of office/supervisor/commander concerned shall submit to the PES/RED-NCR the following:

(i) a sworn request from him that he be provided with application forms for local absentee voting, and
(ii) a subscribed list of registered voters under his supervision or command availing of the local absentee voting indicating therein the city/municipality, barangay, precinct number where they are registered and the place of their assignment.

a) Copies of the Application Form for Local Absentee Voting and the List of Registered Voters Who Will Avail of Local Absentee Voting are hereto attached as Annexes "A" and "B" and made integral parts of this Resolution.
b) Immediately upon receipt of the sworn request for application forms and subscribed list of registered voters, the PES/RED-NCR shall issue such number of application forms corresponding to the number of applicants to the head of office/supervisor/ commander concerned or his duly authorized representative. The PES/RED-NCR shall keep a record of the different government offices/AFP units/PNP stations to which the application forms were sent and the number of forms sent.
c) The head of office/supervisor/commander shall distribute the application forms to their respective personnel.
d) The accomplished application forms for local absentee voting shall be returned by the applicant-voter not later than March 22, 2004 to the head of office/supervisor/commander who shall in turn transmit the same directly to the Committee on Local Absentee Voting (CLAV), c/o Electoral Contests Adjudication Department (ECAD), Commission on Elections, Postigo Street, Intramuros, Manila immediately upon receipt thereof but not later than March 26, 2004, copy of which transmittal shall be furnished the PES concerned/RED-NCR.

In all cases, the issuance, return and submission of the application forms shall be by the fastest means available.

SECTION 7. Verification of applicants for local absentee voting. — Upon receipt of the list of registered voters applying for local absentee voting from the head of office/supervisor/commander concerned, the CLAV shall immediately verify whether the listed names are in fact registered voters. Upon verification and approval of applications, the CLAV shall record in a log book the names of the government employees/members of the AFP/PNP who are qualified to vote *in absentia*.

SECTION 8. Transmittal of list of qualified local absentee voters, local absentee ballots and other election paraphernalia from the CLAV. — The CLAV shall transmit, not later than April 16, 2004, the list of qualified local absentee voters, the exact number of local absentee ballots, inner and outer envelopes, and paper seals corresponding to the number of approved applications and thumbprint takers to the PES/RED-NCR, who shall in turn forward the same to the head of office/supervisor/commander concerned not later than 23 April 2004.

The PES/RED-NCR shall make a list in four (4) copies of the names of government officials or employees/members of the AFP/PNP who are qualified to vote *in absentia* and distribute the said lists not later than April 23, 2004 to the following:

a) Concerned head of office/supervisor/commander, together with local absentee official ballots and other election paraphernalia;
b) Election Officer (EO) concerned with a directive mentioned in Section 5(k) above; and
c) Committee on Local Absentee Voting (CLAV), c/o ECAD, Commission on Elections, Postigo Street, Intramuros, Manila.

The remaining copy shall be retained by the PES/RED-NCR for record purposes.

The PES/RED-NCR shall also keep a record of the names of heads of offices, supervisors or commanders to whom the ballots, security envelopes, paper seals, list of voters and other required election paraphernalia were delivered and the exact number of local absentee ballots delivered with their serial numbers. A copy of such record shall be furnished the CLAV.

SECTION 9. Security envelopes for local absentee ballots. — There shall be two (2) security envelopes for each local absentee ballot namely: an outer envelope and an inner envelope both with serial numbers. The outer envelope where the detachable coupon shall be placed, shall contain spaces for the name of the voter and his voter's registration record number (VRRN).

The inner envelope where the accomplished ballot shall be placed, shall contain no other mark except an indication that it is a special envelope for a local absentee ballot.

SECTION 10. Distribution of local absentee ballots, envelopes and paper seals. — Not later than April 26, 2004, the head of office/supervisor/ commander concerned, shall deliver the local absentee ballots, inner and outer envelopes, and paper seals to the qualified local absentee voters. In the distribution, he shall:

a) require each voter to affix his signature opposite his name in the list prepared by the CLAV under Sec. 8 hereof;
b) detach one ballot from the pad of ballots and retain the stubs where the serial number appears;
c) write the serial numbers of the ballot, security envelope, and paper seal opposite the name of the voter in the list;
d) give to the voter the ballot, two security envelopes and two (2) paper seals; and
e) instruct the voter to immediately accomplish the ballot in accordance with Section 12 hereof and return the same to him.

SECTION 11. Date and place of voting. — The local absentee voter shall vote starting April 27, 2004 until April 29, 2004. For this purpose, the head of office/supervisor/ commander shall designate the time and place of voting where the voters shall converge to vote.

SECTION 12. Manner of voting. — The local absentee voter shall:

a) fill up the ballot secretly;
b) imprint his thumbmark on the proper space in the detachable coupon of the ballot;
c) detach the coupon from the ballot and place the same inside the outer envelope;
d) place the accomplished ballot inside the inner envelope, close and seal the envelope;
e) place the sealed inner envelope inside the outer envelope, which shall likewise be sealed;
f) write his name and VRRN on the spaces provided for in the outer envelope; and
g) submit the sealed security envelope to the head of office/supervisor/commander.

SECTION 13. Transmittal of local absentee ballots and other election documents to the CLAV. — The head of office/supervisor/commander shall, after he has collected all the accomplished ballots from the local absentee voters, immediately transmit said ballots to the CLAV, c/o ECAD, Comelec, Intramuros, Manila by the fastest means available, so that the ballots are received in the Commission not later than May 6, 2004. The head of office/supervisor/commander concerned shall prepare a transmittal letter in two (2) copies indicating the names of the persons who cast the local absentee votes and their VRRNs. He shall submit a copy of the letter to the CLAV and a certification on the number of ballots collected by him. The CLAV shall write a letter to the EO concerned who shall indicate in the list of voters with voting records that said voters have availed of local absentee voting.

The PES/RED-NCR shall likewise return to the CLAV in Manila whatever excess application forms for local absentee ballots remaining in his custody.

SECTION 14. Special Board of Election Inspectors. — The Commission may constitute as many Special Board of Election Inspectors (SBEIs) for local absentee voting as may be deemed necessary to count the local absentee ballots. The members thereof shall be chosen and appointed by the Chairman of the CLAV from among the personnel of the Commission in the Main Office, Manila, not later than April 23, 2004.

SECTION 15. Oath of members of SBEI. — Before assuming their office, the chairman and members of the BEI shall take and sign an oath before any officer authorized to administer oaths. Copies of the oaths shall immediately be submitted to the CLAV.

SECTION 16. Proceedings of the SBEI. — The SBEI shall meet in any available office of the Commission, Intramuros, Manila, at 3:00 o'clock in the afternoon of May 10, 2004 to count the votes cast by the local absentee voters and shall not adjourn until the counting is completed. All proceedings of the SBEI shall be public. It shall act through its chairman and all questions presented before it shall be decided without delay. All questions presented before it shall be decided by majority vote of the members. During meetings, not more than one member shall be absent at a time, and in no case shall such absence be for more than twenty (20) minutes.

SECTION 17. Manner of counting local absentee ballots. — The envelopes containing the local absentee ballots shall be placed in ballot boxes and distributed to the different SBEIs at the rate of three hundred (300) envelopes per SBEI. The SBEI shall proceed with the counting as follows:

a) retrieve the special envelopes from the ballot box;
b) open each outer envelope, retrieve the inner envelope and the detachable coupon;
c) place the coupons in the compartment for spoiled ballots of the ballot box;
d) open the inner envelope and retrieve the ballot found therein;
e) pile the ballots in bundles of one hundred (100) each;
f) read and count the ballots;
g) record by a vertical line on the proper spaces in the election returns each vote read and counted. Every fifth vote shall be recorded by a diagonal line crossing the previous four vertical lines;
h) write the partial sum of votes obtained by each candidate on the tally board and on the election returns. After finishing the first pile of 100 ballots, the BEI shall proceed to count the succeeding piles of ballots recording the partial sum of votes for each candidate after every 100 ballots are read and recorded; and
i) add the partial sum of the votes recorded for each candidate and record the total votes on the tally board and on the election returns after all ballots have been read.

SECTION 18. Election Returns. — The election returns shall be prepared in seven (7) copies and distributed as follows:

a) The first copy to be submitted to the Special Board of Canvassers for local absentee voting;
b) The second copy, to the Congress, directed to the President of the Senate;
c) The third copy, to the Commission to be submitted to the Election Records and Statistics Department (ERSD);
d) The fourth copy to the dominant majority party;
e) The fifth copy to the dominant minority party; and
f) The sixth copy to the accredited citizens' arm of the Commission.
g) The seventh copy to be deposited inside the compartment for valid ballots of the ballot box;

SECTION 19. Post counting procedure. — Upon the termination of the counting of votes, the SBEI shall:

a) place in the envelope provided for the purpose the counted official absentee ballots;
b) seal the envelope with paper seal;
c) deposit the envelope properly sealed inside the compartment for valid ballots of the ballot box;
d) bundle the inner envelopes used for the filled out ballots and deposit the same inside the compartment for valid ballots of the ballot box;
e) place the seventh copy of the election returns inside the compartment for valid ballots;
f) close the ballot box with metal seals and padlocks;
g) deliver the locked ballot box and the keys to the padlocks to the Committee for safekeeping; and
h) distribute the election returns according to Sec. 18 hereof.

SECTION 20. Special Board of Canvassers. — There is hereby constituted a Special Board of Canvassers ("SBOC") for local absentee voting to be composed of a ranking lawyer of the Commission as chairman to be designated by the Chairman of the CLAV, and as members, a lawyer from the Department of Justice and ranking official from the Department of Education.

SECTION 21. Notice of canvass. — The chairman of the SBOC shall give notice of canvass to its members, the presidential, vice-presidential, senatorial candidates and the political parties of the time, date and place of canvass at least five (5) days before May 10, 2004.

SECTION 22. Meeting of the Special Board of Canvassers. — The SBOC shall meet not later than 6:00 o'clock in the evening of May 10, 2004 in any available office in the Commission, Intramuros, Manila, and proceed with the canvass of the election returns submitted to it by the SBEIs. It shall not adjourn until the canvass is completed, making available the data to the mass media and other interested parties.

SECTION 23. Certificate of canvass. – The SBOC shall prepare the Certificates of Canvass in seven (7) copies for distribution as follows:

a) The first copy to the Congress, directed to the President of the Senate for use in the canvass of the election results for President and Vice-President;
b) The second copy to the Commission as National Board of Canvassers for use in the canvass of the election results for senators and party-list representatives;
c) The third copy to be retained by the chairman of the SBOC;
d) The fourth copy to the citizens' arm designated by the Commission to conduct a media-based unofficial count; and
e) The fifth, sixth and seventh copies to the three (3) accredited major political parties.

SECTION 24. Watchers. — In every meeting of the SBEI and the SBOC, each candidate for President, Vice-President, Senators, each duly registered political party, organization or coalition of political parties, which has nominated candidates for President, Vice-President, Senators and Party-List Representatives, and one duly accredited citizens' arm of the Commission of national constituency, shall be entitled to appoint in writing one (1) watcher. Civic, religious, professional, business, youth and any other similar organizations with prior authority to the Commission, shall collectively be entitled to appoint one (1) common watcher.

SECTION 25. Effectivity. — This Resolution shall take effect immediately after its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

SECTION 26. Dissemination. — The Education and Information Department shall cause the publication of this Resolution in two (2) newspapers of general circulation and shall furnish copies thereof to the Department of Education, the Department of Justice, Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, the Director General of the Philippine National Police and all deputized departments and agencies or instrumentalities and all field offices of the Commission.

SO ORDERED.

BENJAMIN S. ABALOS
Chairman

RUFINO S.B. JAVIER
Commissioner

MEHOL K. SADAIN
Commissioner

RESURRECCION Z. BORRA
Commissioner

FLORENTINO A. TUASON, JR.
Commissioner

VIRGILIO O. GARCILLANO
Commissioner

MANUEL A. BARCELONA, JR.
Commissioner

(PDI – February 29, 2004)

Republic of the Philippines
COMMISSION ON AUDIT
Commonwealth Avenue, Quezon City, Philippines

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS

National Capital Region - CY 2002

ASSETS, LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

For CY 2002, the total Assets of the Local Government Units (LGUs) at the National Capital Region under the General Fund amounted to P55.7 billion representing 23.4 percent of the P237.8 billion assets of the entire Local Governments.

Among the LGUs, the Quezon City Government has the biggest current assets amounting to P3.6 billion consisting of Cash of P1.7 billion, receivables of P1.8 billion and other current assets of P0.1 billion.

Coming in second is Pasig City of P2 billion, followed by the cities of Makati and Manila of P1.4 and P1.3 billions, respectively.

On the percentage of liability to assets, topping the list is Pasig City with the lowest 10.02 percent followed by Las Piñas City of 10.4 percent and San Juan of 11.77 percent.

On the other hand, LGUs with the highest percentage of Current Assets to Total Assets are the cities of Valenzuela, Parañaque and Quezon with 37.11, 35.18 and 33.59 percents, respectively.

INCOME AND EXPENSES

For the same period, the NCR realized a gross income of P25 billion or 16.8 percent of the P148.8 billion reported income of LGUs. On the other hand, NCR expenses amounted to P18.2 billion or 15.5 percent of the total expenses of P117.5 billion of the Local Governments.

On the over-all, Quezon City reported the highest income amounting to P5.3 billion, P2.3 billion of which came from Business Taxes and Licenses.

Makati had the second highest income of P4.2 billion, majority of which were sourced from Real Property Taxes, followed by the City of Manila of P4.16 billion.

Among the municipalities, Taguig had the highest income amounting to P564.6 million followed by San Juan which reported a total income of P381.2 million.

Las Piñas has the lowest percentage of operating expenses to income of 46.7 percent followed by Pasig City of 50.7 percent and Quezon City of 60.6 percent.

PER CAPITA EXPENSES/INCOME

Per Capita expenses shows the amount of expenditures incurred for each of the population while the per capita income represents the income earned per population.

On the income per population, Makati City generated the highest income of P9,717 per capita followed by Pasig City of P4,372 and Mandaluyong City of P3,801.

(in million pesos)

LGUs	Assets				Liabilities & Equity			% of Liab to Assets	% of CA to TA
	Current Assets (CA)	Fixed Assets	Other Assets	Total Assets (TA)	Liabilities	Govt Equity	Total Liab. & Equity		
Cities									
Caloocan City	531.6	2,413.2	0.0	2,945.0	1,885.0	1,060.0	2,945.0	64.0	18.1
Las Piñas City	275.8	1,110.3	2.2	1,388.3	144.3	1,243.9	1,388.3	10.4	19.9
Makati City	1,367.7	11,235.6	107.9	12,711.1	3,628.7	9,082.4	12,711.1	28.5	10.8
Malabon City	60.3	206.4	0.0	266.6	76.0	190.7	266.6	28.5	22.6
Mandaluyong City	513.4	1,505.5	0.0	2,019.0	646.3	1,372.6	2,019.0	32.0	25.4
Manila City	1,320.0	5,338.0	0.4	6,658.4	2,884.7	3,773.7	6,658.4	43.3	19.8
Marikina City	643.9	1,477.7	41.1	2,162.7	714.2	1,448.5	2,162.7	33.0	29.8
Muntinlupa City	170.0	956.2	0.0	1,126.2	572.3	553.9	1,126.2	50.8	15.1
Parañaque City	706.1	1,300.9	0.0	2,007.0	1,489.4	517.6	2,007.0	74.2	35.2
Pasay City	275.6	1,738.5	0.0	2,014.1	756.2	1,257.9	2,014.1	37.5	13.7
Pasig City	1,987.9	5,487.7	0.1	7,475.6	749.2	6,726.4	7,475.6	10.0	26.6
Quezon City	3,648.2	7,212.8	0.0	10,860.9	1,831.7	9,029.3	10,860.9	16.9	33.6
Valenzuela City	639.4	1,083.6	0.0	1,723.0	274.4	1,448.7	1,723.0	15.9	37.1
Municipalities									
Navotas	123.1	274.2	0.0	397.3	188.5	208.8	397.3	47.4	31.0
Pateros	31.5	167.4	0.0	199.0	40.9	158.0	199.0	20.6	15.9
San Juan	214.5	655.6	0.0	870.2	102.4	767.8	870.2	11.8	24.7
Taguig	204.0	715.7	0.4	920.1	227.5	692.7	920.1	24.7	22.2
Total	12,713.2	42,879.4	152.0	55,744.6	16,211.7	39,532.9	55,744.6	29.1	22.8

The table below shows the main sources of income of NCR-LGUs and its operating expenses.

	Cities/Municipalities	Income (in Thousand Pesos)			Total Operating Expenses	Percentage of Expenses to Income
		Internal Sources	External Sources	Grand Total		
1	Quezon City	3,946,465.3	1,339,568.0	5,286,033.3	3,203,147.4	60.6
2	Makati City	3,816,458.7	403,992.6	4,220,451.3	2,850,729.3	67.5
3	Manila City	3,116,507.8	1,047,027.1	4,163,534.9	3,668,543.9	88.1
4	Pasig City	1,677,114.8	388,438.6	2,065,553.3	1,046,225.2	50.7
5	Caloocan City	640,142.2	740,218.3	1,380,360.5	1,134,210.4	82.2
6	Mandaluyong City	778,135.5	280,363.8	1,058,499.3	923,414.8	87.2
7	Parañaque City	708,046.2	345,447.7	1,053,493.8	1,014,847.9	96.3
8	Pasay City	639,536.0	306,163.3	945,699.3	828,464.3	87.6
9	Las Piñas City	467,153.0	373,755.2	840,908.2	392,307.4	46.7
10	Muntinlupa City	533,984.0	304,334.4	838,318.3	766,756.8	91.5
11	Valenzuela City	434,465.2	375,762.2	810,227.3	552,799.8	68.2
12	Marikina City	382,179.0	318,950.7	701,129.7	468,846.5	66.9
13	Taguig	337,956.7	226,678.0	564,634.7	496,144.5	87.9
14	Malabon City	139,776.2	289,257.2	429,033.4	348,081.3	81.1
15	San Juan	314,598.4	66,611.7	381,210.1	295,339.6	77.5
16	Navotas	91,122.0	116,296.9	207,418.9	189,978.5	91.6
17	Pateros	23,734.1	37,877.1	61,611.2	53,934.4	87.5
	TOTALS	18,071,821.0	6,960,742.6	25,032,563.7	18,233,772.0	72.8

Note: Income from Internal Sources includes Property Taxes, Taxes on Goods and Services and Other Taxes.
Income from External Sources includes Internal Revenue Allotment, Expanded Value Added Tax, National Wealth and from Grants & Donations.

The table below shows that Makati City has the highest per capita expenses of P6,563 for every resident of Makati. This is followed by Mandaluyong City of P3,316 and San Juan of P2,510.

LGUs	Total Population (Year 2000)	Per Capita	
		on Expenses	on Income
Caloocan City	1,177,604	963	1,172
Las Piñas City	472,780	830	1,779
Makati City	434,357	6,563	9,717
Malabon City	338,855	1,027	1,266
Mandaluyong City	278,474	3,316	3,801
Manila City	1,581,082	2,320	2,633
Marikina City	391,170	1,199	1,792
Muntinlupa City	379,310	2,021	2,210
Parañaque City	449,811	2,256	2,342

LGUs	Total Population (Year 2000)	Per Capita	
		on Expenses	on Income
Pasay City	340,699	2,432	2,776
Pasig City	472,407	2,215	4,372
Quezon City	2,173,831	1,474	2,432
Valenzuela City	485,433	1,139	1,669
Navotas	230,403	825	1,006
Pateros	57,407	940	1,073
San Juan	117,680	2,510	3,239
Taguig	467,275	1,062	1,208
Total	9,848,678	1,851	2,542

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION
STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES
General Fund For the Year Ended December 31, 2002
(In thousand pesos)

Account Title	Grand Total	Total Cities	Caloocan City	Las Piñas City	Makati City	Malabon City	Mandaluyong City	Manila City	Marikina City	Muntinlupa City
INCOME										
Business Taxes and Licenses	9,199,367.8	8,859,722.6	226,820.5	174,244.3	1,994,331.5	53,122.9	400,923.4	1,767,470.7	141,424.7	223,543.7
Share from Internal Revenue Collections	6,947,776.9	6,500,334.8	738,767.3	373,755.2	403,728.1	285,819.1	277,413.9	1,047,016.1	318,950.7	304,334.4
Property Tax	5,340,100.7	5,054,405.6	189,909.2	111,628.2	1,308,229.2	38,785.6	222,608.4	695,845.4	109,012.2	186,145.0
Permit Fees	792,956.0	747,490.4	67,879.6	42,014.0	121,955.2	20,422.6	22,355.2	173,418.8	8,128.4	21,425.4
Amusement Tax	444,998.8	441,897.0	8,152.4	24,048.7	105,606.0	111.9	72,028.5	60,910.3	749.5	18,942.8
Fines and Penalties	278,324.5	264,838.5	4,165.4	8,329.9	42,425.9	586.9	2,633.9	13,780.1	11,649.8	11,348.2
Garbage Fees	248,524.7	238,880.5	20,295.1	32,103.2	14,437.8	3,925.7	8,203.6	59,181.2	7,978.4	6,500.6
Community Tax	250,889.9	237,871.3	9,578.8	5,527.0	55,099.9	4,464.8	12,903.7	42,970.2	6,457.6	7,218.6
Interest Income	219,194.6	204,076.0	9,037.2	12,491.6	56,126.1	115.0	23.1	8,111.2	27,800.2	668.3
Others	1,310,429.8	1,243,728.0	105,755.0	56,766.2	118,511.5	21,678.9	39,405.7	294,830.7	68,978.2	58,191.4
Total Income	25,032,563.7	23,793,242.7	1,380,360.5	840,908.2	4,220,451.3	429,033.4	1,058,499.3	4,163,534.9	701,129.7	838,318.3
EXPENSES										
Salaries and Other personnel Benefits	8,490,453.5	8,062,344.1	417,156.3	165,396.1	1,336,406.2	188,212.3	476,618.8	1,979,734.1	250,815.9	485,398.9
General Services	1,818,758.2	1,816,502.5	210.4	-	540,004.5	9.9	-	42,759.2	1.8	-
Rent Expenses	1,094,145.2	1,053,813.0	268,060.8	-	137,519.2	-	285.4	484,028.8	1,168.8	1,279.7
Electricity	753,305.6	710,462.6	56,163.8	13,557.3	105,746.4	30,167.3	30,949.0	119,376.4	27,577.3	22,958.4
Interest Expenses	491,924.4	481,335.3	11,372.8	-	284,481.0	3,703.7	26,484.7	31,043.6	32,036.5	20,246.6
Grants and Donations	420,263.4	416,364.4	4,922.0	1,361.9	5,907.4	3,331.3	2,493.8	233,616.3	6,836.6	42,924.6
Office Supplies Expenses	331,471.1	298,323.3	24,907.2	12,326.0	14,877.3	14,825.6	15,168.4	58,028.4	10,082.5	4,050.3
Medical, Dental and Laboratory Supplies	230,153.7	209,510.3	1,946.3	7,410.2	43,436.1	6,056.3	18,878.0	57,527.1	5,658.0	1,316.2
Security and Janitorial Services	210,333.6	203,993.5	99,519.9	-	47,127.8	-	9,533.8	-	-	11.2
Other Expenses	4,392,963.4	3,945,725.9	249,950.9	192,256.0	335,223.5	101,774.9	343,002.8	662,429.9	134,669.2	186,571.0
Total Expenses	18,233,772.0	17,198,374.9	1,134,210.4	392,307.4	2,850,729.3	348,081.3	923,414.8	3,668,543.9	468,846.5	766,756.8
Income before Subsidies and Extraordinary Item	6,798,791.7	6,594,867.8	246,150.0	448,600.8	1,369,722.0	80,952.1	135,084.6	494,991.0	232,283.2	71,561.5
Less: Subsidy and Extraordinary Items	451,602.2	437,020.0	32,444.5	-	65,004.7	(2,825.1)	34,937.0	-	-	16,967.2
Net Income	6,347,189.4	6,157,847.7	213,705.5	448,600.8	1,304,717.3	83,777.2	100,147.6	494,991.0	232,283.2	54,594.3

Account Title	Parañaque City	Pasay City	Pasig City	Quezon City	Valenzuela City	Total Municipalities	Navotas	Pateros	San Juan	Taguig
INCOME										
Business Taxes and Licenses	398,883.8	231,401.2	808,843.0	2,244,182.9	194,530.2	339,645.2	44,778.7	6,754.1	167,327.6	120,784.8
Share from Internal Revenue Collections	345,147.7	301,633.6	388,438.6	1,339,568.0	375,762.2	447,442.1	116,298.9	37,877.1	66,590.1	226,678.0
Property Tax	245,730.6	244,745.5	578,656.7	990,279.0	132,830.7	285,695.1	45,773.4	5,579.0	87,213.9	147,128.7
Permit Fees	14,072.1	38,698.1	43,078.0	118,347.6	57,697.4	45,465.6	4,603.7	1,971.5	6,183.3	32,707.2
Amusement Tax	12,626.4	5,063.6	4,812.5	127,857.4	985.1	3,101.8	19.0	155.0	2,486.4	441.4
Fines and Penalties	7,312.5	21,732.9	19,751.0	119,824.4	1,295.4	13,488.0	1,773.4	370.5	4,121.9	7,222.1
Garbage Fees	2,781.9	5,266.4	13,440.9	54,311.1	10,454.4	9,644.2	1,862.6	469.4	3,105.8	4,206.2
Community Tax	8,705.1	8,381.8	22,508.7	46,408.8	7,646.4	13,018.6	2,127.1	582.7	5,660.4	4,648.3
Interest Income	367.3	849.2	31,629.4	38,764.4	18,093.1	15,118.6	948.5	-	7,480.2	6,689.9
Others	17,864.5	89,929.1	154,394.5	206,489.8	10,932.5	66,701.8	13,681.4	7,852.0	31,040.5	14,127.9
Total Income	1,053,493.8	945,699.3	2,065,553.3	5,286,033.3	810,227.3	1,239,321.0	231,864.9	61,611.2	381,210.1	564,634.7
EXPENSES										
Salaries and Other personnel Benefits	429,287.0	430,178.3	506,046.4	1,088,245.9	308,848.0	428,109.3	75,682.5	36,213.2	157,694.9	158,518.7
General Services	222,327.9	-	164,327.4	846,723.6	137.9	2,255.7	-	-	2,255.7	-
Rent Expenses	638.5	843.4	805.0	156,084.6	3,098.8	40,332.2	-	49.5	40,089.7	193.0
Electricity	34,858.8	44,537.0	82,433.2	120,223.3	21,914.5	42,843.0	8,460.0	2,636.5	15,973.7	15,772.9
Interest Expenses	10,120.3	30,228.0	402.8	24,188.5	7,028.9	10,589.2	6,391.1	2,730.2	1,467.8	-
Grants and Donations	5,365.2	531.0	10,268.3	91,781.0	7,025.1	3,898.9	-	182.7	1,024.1	2,692.2
Office Supplies Expenses	30,702.2	4,691.0	12,577.7	86,426.3	9,660.3	33,147.8	6,468.9	1,276.0	11,232.3	14,170.6
Medical, Dental and Laboratory Supplies	22,435.2	6,677.5	29,509.1	1,115.1	7,545.2	20,643.4	-	193.6	16,499.3	3,950.4
Security and Janitorial Services	111.9	13,234.3	8,342.7	28,111.8	-	6,340.1	-	-	5,900.5	439.7
Other Expenses	259,000.9	297,543.7	233,512.6	760,247.3	187,543.2	447,237.4	92,976.0	10,652.7	43,201.6	300,407.1
Total Expenses	1,014,847.9	828,464.3	1,046,225.2	3,203,147.4	552,799.8	1,035,397.1	189,978.5	53,934.4	295,339.6	496,144.5
Income before Subsidies and Extraordinary Item	38,646.0	117,235.1	1,019,328.1	2,082,885.9	257,427.6	203,923.9	41,886.4	7,676.8	85,870.5	68,490.2
Less: Subsidy and Extraordinary Items	96,121.3	39,413.0	65,436.5	65,964.2	23,556.8	14,582.2	2,717.4	-	11,864.8	-
Net Income	(57,475.3)	77,822.1	953,891.6	2,016,921.6	233,870.8	189,341.7	39,169.0	7,676.8	74,005.7	68,490.2

Local Government Units, National Capital Region, Schedule Income, By Source General Fund For the Year Ended December 31, 2002 (In thousand pesos)

Cities/Municipalities	Business Taxes and Licenses	Cities/Municipalities	Share from Internal Revenue Collections	Cities/Municipalities	Property Tax	Cities/Municipalities	Permit Fees	Cities/Municipalities	Amusement Tax
Total	9,199,367.8	Total	6,947,776.9	Total	5,340,100.7	Total	792,956.0	Total	444,998.8
Quezon City	2,244,182.9	Quezon City	1,339,568.0	Makati City	1,308,229.2	Manila City	173,418.8	Quezon City	127,857.4
Makati City	1,994,331.5	Manila City	1,047,016.1	Quezon City	990,279.0	Makati City	121,955.2	Makati City	105,606.0
Manila City	1,767,470.7	Caloocan City	738,767.3	Manila City	695,845.4	Quezon City	118,347.6	Mandaluyong City	72,028.5
Pasig City	808,843.0	Makati City	403,728.1	Pasig City	578,656.7	Caloocan City	67,879.6	Manila City	60,910.3
Mandaluyong City	400,923.4	Pasig City	388,438.6	Parañaque City	245,730.6	Valenzuela City	57,697.4	Las Piñas City	24,048.7
Parañaque City	398,883.8	Valenzuela City	375,762.2	Pasay City	244,745.5	Pasig City	43,078.0	Muntinlupa City	18,942.8
Pasay City	231,401.2	Las Piñas City	373,755.2	Mandaluyong City	222,608.4	Las Piñas City	42,014.0	Parañaque City	12,626.4
Caloocan City	226,820.5	Parañaque City	345,147.7	Caloocan City	189,909.2	Pasay City	38,698.1	Caloocan City	8,152.4
Muntinlupa City	223,543.7	Marikina City	318,950.7	Muntinlupa City	186,145.0	Taguig	32,707.2	Pasay City	5,063.6
Valenzuela City	194,530.2	Muntinlupa City	304,334.4	Taguig	147,128.7	Mandaluyong City	22,355.2	Pasig City	4,812.5
Las Piñas City	174,244.3	Pasay City	301,633.6	Valenzuela City	132,830.7	Muntinlupa City	21,425.4	San Juan	2,486.4
San Juan	167,327.6	Malabon City	285,819.1	Las Piñas City	111,628.2	Malabon City	20,422.6	Valenzuela City	985.1
Marikina City	141,424.7	Mandaluyong City	277,413.9	Marikina City	109,012.2	Parañaque City	14,072.1	Marikina City	749.5
Taguig	120,784.8	Taguig	226,678.0	San Juan	87,213.9	Marikina City	8,128.4	Taguig	441.4
Malabon City	53,122.9	Navotas	116,298.8	Navotas	45,773.4	San Juan	6,183.3	Pateros	155.0
Navotas	44,778.7	San Juan	66,590.1	Malabon City	38,785.6	Navotas	4,603.7	Malabon City	111.9
Pateros	6,754.1	Pateros	37,877.1	Pateros	5,579.0	Pateros	1,971.5	Navotas	19.0

Cities/Municipalities	Fines and Penalties	Cities/Municipalities	Garbage Fees	Cities/Municipalities	Community Tax	Cities/Municipalities	Interest Income	Cities/Municipalities	Others
Total	278,324.5	Total	248,524.7	Total	250,889.9	Total	219,194.6	Total	1,310,429.8
Quezon City	119,824.4	Manila City	59,181.2	Makati City	55,099.9	Makati City	56,126.1	Manila City	294,830.7
Makati City	42,425.9	Quezon City	54,311.1	Quezon City	46,408.8	Quezon City	38,764.4	Quezon City	206,489.8
Pasay City	21,732.9	Las Piñas City	32,103.2	Manila City	42,970.2	Pasig City	31,629.4	Pasig City	154,394.5
Pasig City	19,751.0	Caloocan City	20,295.1	Pasig City	22,508.7	Marikina City	27,800.2	Makati City	118,511.5
Manila City	13,780.1	Makati City	14,437.8	Mandaluyong City	12,903.7	Valenzuela City	18,093.1	Caloocan City	105,755.0
Marikina City	11,649.8	Pasig City	13,440.9	Caloocan City	9,578.8	Las Piñas City	12,491.6	Pasay City	89,929.1
Muntinlupa City	11,348.2	Valenzuela City	10,454.4	Parañaque City	8,705.1	Caloocan City	9,037.2	Marikina City	68,978.2
Las Piñas City	8,329.9	Mandaluyong city	8,203.6	Pasay City	8,381.8	Manila City	8,111.2	Muntinlupa City	58,191.4
Parañaque City	7,312.5	Marikina City	7,978.4	Valenzuela City	7,646.4	San Juan	7,480.2	Las Piñas City	56,766.2
Taguig	7,222.1	Muntinlupa City	6,500.6	Muntinlupa City	7,218.6	Taguig	6,689.9	Mandaluyong City	39,405.7
Caloocan City	4,165.4	Pasay City	5,266.4	Marikina City	6,457.6	Navotas	948.5	San Juan	31,040.5
San Juan	4,121.9	Taguig	4,206.2	San Juan	5,660.4	Pasay City	849.2	Malabon City	21,678.9
Mandaluyong City	2,633.9	Malabon City	3,925.7	Las Piñas City	5,527.0	Muntinlupa City	668.3	Parañaque City	17,864.5
Navotas	1,773.4	San Juan	3,105.8	Taguig	4,648.3	Parañaque City	367.3	Taguig	14,127.9
Valenzuela City	1,295.4	Parañaque City	2,781.9	Malabon City	4,464.8	Malabon City	115.0	Navotas	13,681.4
Malabon City	586.9	Navotas	1,862.8	Navotas	2,127.1	Mandaluyong City	23.1	Valenzuela City	10,932.5
Pateros	370.5	Pateros	469.4	Pateros	582.7	Pateros	–	Pateros	7,852.0

Local Government Units, National Capital Region, Schedule of Expenses General Fund For the Year Ended December 31, 2002 (In thousand pesos)

	Salaries and Other Personnel Benefits		General Services		Rent Expenses		Electricity		Interest Expenses
Total	8,490,453.5	Total	1,818,758.2	Total	1,084,145.2	Total	753,305.6	Total	491,924.4
Manila City	1,979,734.1	Quezon City	846,723.6	Manila City	484,028.8	Quezon City	120,223.3	Makati City	284,481.0
Makati City	1,336,406.2	Makati City	540,004.5	Caloocan City	268,060.8	Manila City	119,376.4	Marikina City	32,036.5
Quezon City	1,088,245.9	Parañaque City	222,327.9	Quezon City	156,084.6	Makati City	105,746.4	Manila City	31,043.6
Pasig City	506,046.4	Pasig City	164,327.9	Makati City	137,519.2	Pasig City	82,433.2	Pasay City	30,228.0
Muntinlupa City	485,398.9	Manila City	42,759.2	San Juan	40,089.7	Caloocan City	56,163.8	Mandaluyong City	26,484.7
Mandaluyong City	476,618.8	San Juan	2,255.7	Valenzuela City	3,065.8	Pasay City	44,537.0	Quezon City	24,188.5
Pasay City	430,178.3	Caloocan City	210.4	Muntinlupa City	1,279.7	Parañaque City	34,858.8	Muntinlupa City	20,246.6
Parañaque City	429,287.0	Valenzuela City	137.9	Marikina City	1,168.8	Mandaluyong City	30,949.0	Caloocan City	11,372.8
Caloocan City	417,156.3	Malabon City	9.9	Pasay City	843.4	Malabon City	30,167.3	Parañaque City	10,120.3
Valenzuela City	308,848.0	Marikina City	1.8	Pasig City	805.0	Marikina City	27,577.3	Valenzuela City	7,028.9
Marikina City	250,815.9	Las Piñas City	–	Parañaque City	638.5	Muntinlupa City	22,958.4	Navotas	6,391.1
Malabon City	188,212.3	Mandaluyong City	–	Mandaluyong City	285.4	Valenzuela City	21,914.5	Malabon City	3,703.7
Las Piñas City	165,396.1	Muntinlupa City	–	Taguig	193.0	San Juan	15,973.7	Pateros	2,730.2
Taguig	158,518.7	Pasay City	–	Pateros	49.5	Taguig	15,772.9	San Juan	1,467.8
San Juan	157,694.9	Navotas City	–	Las Piñas City	–	Las Piñas City	13,567.3	Pasig City	402.8
Navotas	75,682.5	Pateros	–	Malabon City	–	Navotas	8,460.0	Las Piñas City	–
Pateros	36,213.2	Taguig	–	Navotas	–	Pateros	2,636.5	Taguig	–

	Grants and Donations		Office Supplies Expenses		Medical, Dental and Laboratory Supplies		Security and Janitorial Services		Other Expenses
Total	420,263.4	Total	331,471.1	Total	230,153.7	Total	210,333.6	Total	4,392,963.4
Manila City	233,616.3	Quezon City	86,426.3	Manila City	57,527.1	Caloocan City	99,519.9	Quezon City	760,247.3
Quezon City	91,781.0	Manila City	58,028.4	Makati City	43,436.1	Makati City	47,127.8	Manila City	662,429.9
Muntinlupa City	42,924.6	Parañaque City	30,702.2	Pasig City	29,509.1	Quezon City	28,111.8	Mandaluyong City	343,002.8
Pasig City	10,268.3	Caloocan City	24,907.2	Parañaque City	22,435.2	Pasay City	13,234.3	Makati City	335,223.5
Valenzuela City	7,025.1	Mandaluyong City	15,168.4	Mandaluyong City	18,878.0	Mandaluyong City	9,533.8	Taguig	300,407.1
Marikina City	6,836.6	Makati City	14,877.3	San Juan	16,499.3	Pasig City	8,342.7	Pasay City	297,543.7
Makati City	5,907.4	Malabon City	14,825.6	Valenzuela City	7,545.2	San Juan	5,900.5	Parañaque City	259,000.9
Parañaque City	5,365.2	Taguig	14,170.6	Las Piñas City	7,410.2	Taguig	439.7	Caloocan City	249,950.9
Caloocan City	4,922.0	Pasig City	12,577.7	Pasay City	6,677.5	Parañaque City	111.9	Pasig City	233,512.6
Malabon City	3,331.3	Las Piñas City	12,326.0	Malabon City	6,056.0	Muntinlupa City	11.2	Las Piñas City	192,256.0
Taguig	2,692.2	San Juan	11,232.3	Marikina City	5,658.0	Las Piñas City	–	Muntinlupa City	186,571.0
Mandaluyong City	2,493.8	Marikina City	10,062.5	Taguig	3,950.4	Malabon City	–	Valenzuela City	187,543.2
Las Piñas City	1,361.0	Valenzuela City	9,660.3	Caloocan City	1,946.3	Manila City	–	Marikina City	134,669.2
San Juan	1,024.1	Navotas	6,468.9	Muntinlupa City	1,316.2	Marikina City	–	Malabon City	101,774.9
Pasay City	531.0	Pasay City	4,691.0	Quezon City	1,115.1	Valenzuela City	–	Navotas	92,976.0
Pateros	182.7	Muntinlupa City	4,050.3	Pateros	193.6	Navotas	–	San Juan	43,201.6
Navotas	–	Pateros	1,276.0	Navotas	–	Pateros	–	Pateros	10,652.7

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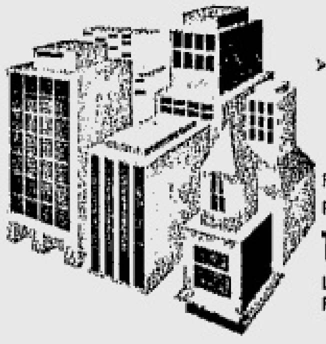

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AREA I: Las Piñas, Makati, Muntinlupa, Parañaque Area, Pasay and Pateros

CODE	*LOCATION / DESCRIPTION*		*SELLING PRICE*
KBPI 88	Lot 2-A-1-H-2 (Formerly 2-A-1-H) Alabang Zapote Road, Las Piñas City Commercial Lot, improved by two (2) single storey building utilized as office and canteen. Building 1: FA - 104.00 sq.m. & Building 2: FA: 61.00 sq.m.; LA – 594 sq.m.	P	17,358,000.00
	Office/Commercial Condo units located at #7395 Praise Condominium, Sanitlan St., Makati City		
KBPI 69	1. Unit 203 2/F; Floor Area - 155.497 sq.m.	P	5,908,886.00
KBPI 70	2. Unit 303 3/F; Floor Area - 144.307 sq.m.	P	5,483,666.00
KBPI 207	3. Unit 602 6/F; Floor Area - 34.674 sq.m.	P	1,325,212.00
KBPI 208	4. Unit 607 6/F; Floor Area - 29.331 sq.m.	P	1,114,578.00
KBPI 71	5. Unit 701 7/F; Floor Area – 255.003 sq.m.	P	9,690,114.00
KBPI 72	6. Unit 801 8/F; Floor Area – 255.003 sq.m.	P	9,690,114.00 @ 38,000/sq.m.
	Office/Commercial Condo units located at The Atrium of Makati, Makati Avenue, Makati City		
KBPI 181	1. Unit 222, 2/F; Floor Area – 145.05 sq.m.	P	8,703,000.00
KBPI 182	2. Unit 223, 2/F; Floor Area – 192.05 sq.m.	P	11,523,000.00 20,226,600.00 @ 60,000/sq.m.
	Residential Condo Units located at No. 5040 T-Tower Condominium, P Burgos St. cor. Calderon St., Makati City		
KBPI 175	1. Unit 3-C One (1) bedroom unit provided with living, kitchen area, and two (2) toilet & bathroom Floor Area – 70 sq m.	P	1,750,000.00
KBPI 176	2. Unit 3-D Studio type unit provided with living, kitchen area and one (1) toilet & bathroom. Floor Area – 32 sq.m.	P	800,000.00
KBPI 213	Unit 5B Ponte Salcedo Center (Vernida VII) No. 120 Valero St., Salcedo Village, Makati CityResidential Unit / Floor Area – 140 sq.m.	P	7,700,000.00 @ 55,000sq.m.
KBPI 237	No. 130 Lot 33 Blk. 25 Everlasting Circle Road, South Greenheight SubdivisionPutatan, Muntinlupa CityImproved by One (1) storey residential building with basement. FA – 236.5 sq.m. ; LA – 360 sq.m.	P	3,086,250.00
KBPI 210	Lot 5, Blk. 3, No. 67 Jerusalem Street, Multinational Village, Paranaque City Improved by two (2) storey residential buildingLot Area – 560 sq m.; Floor Area – 349 sq.m.	P	7,940,000.00
KBPI 266	Unit 205, 2nd floor Bayview Tower I, Roxas Boulevard, Paranaque City Residential Unit / Floor Area 105 sq.m.	P	4,200,000.00 @ 40,000/sq.m.
KBPI 211	Lot 8 Blk.9, No.9, Rainbow St., Bricktown Subd., Moonwalk Village, Paranaque City Improved by two (2) storey residential building Floor Area – 380 sq.m. ; Lot Area – 518 sq.m.	P	6,011,000.00
KBPI 212	Belmont Southpark Townhomes, United Hills Subd., Brgy. San Dionisio, Paranaque City Consist of 20 Units / Floor Area ranging from 95.34 sq. m. to 182.45 sq.m.	P	15,600.00/sq.m.
KBPI 178	Chingkang St., Brgy. San Jose, Pasay CityTwo adjoining lots with a house. Lot Area – 600 sq.m.	P	10,110,000.00
KBPI 262	Lot 19 & 18-A, Blk. 5, Yellow Bell St., cor. Staghera St., Lexington Garden Village, Pateros, Metro, Manila Improved by two (2) storey residential building; Lot Area –261sq.m.; Floor Area – 187sq m.	P	6,880,000.00

AREA II: Caloocan, Mandaluyong, Manila, Pasig, Quezon City and San Juan

KBPI 257	No. 78 Panaganiban St., Bo. Calaanan, Caloocan CityImproved by: 4-Storey concrete residential apartment type building Lot Area – 94 sq.m.; Floor Area – 305.82 sq.m.	P	4,585,995.00
KBPI 238	No. 143 Buayang Bato St., Mandaluyong CityImproved with a Two (2) storey building. Lot Area - 95 sq.m. / Floor Area – 144 sq.m.	P	1,280,000.00
KBPI 147	No. 2985 Clemente Street cor. Gabriel Street, Tondo, ManilaImproved by a two (2) Storey Residential Building and Candy Factory with roofdeck Lot Area – 172.00 sq. m.; Floor Area – 156.00 sq. m.	P	3,850,000.00
KBPI 217	Unit 1 (Apartment 14 – D1) 14th Floor, Legaspi Towers 300, Roxas Boulevard cor. Pablo Ocampo Sr. (formerly Vito Cruz) Malate, ManilaFloor Area – 119.81 sq.m.	P	4,193,350.00 @ 35,000/sq.m.
KBPI 219	No. 969 Pedro Gil St., Ermita, ManilaOld House, no value given. Lot Area – 481.10 sq.m.	P	15,395,200.00 @ 32,000/sq.m.
KBPI 240	Unit 505 5th Floor, One Magnificent Mile Tower Condo, San Miguel Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City. Commercial & Office SpaceFloor Area – 86.17 sq.m.	P	5,084,030.00 @ 59,000/sq.m.
	Las Villas del Cielo Townhomes, Brgy. Culiat, Tandang Sora, Quezon City Improved by Two (2) storey residential (townhouse type) condo unit with carport. – With three (3) bedrooms and two (2) toilet and bathrooms		
KBPI 168	1. Unit 35 – Lot Area – 58.15 sq. m. / Total Floor Area – 102.50 sq. m.	P	1,500,000.00
KBPI 169	2. Unit 38 – Lot Area – 58.12 sq.m. / Total Floor Area – 101.99 sq.m.	P	1,750,000.00
KBPI 170	3. Unit 51 – Lot Area –61.88 sq.m. / Total Floor Area – 94.49 sq.m.	P	1,700,000.00
KBPI 171	4. Unit 64 – Lot Area – 52.48 sq.m. / Total Floor Area – 98 sq m	P	1,800,000.00
KBPI 172	5. Unit 69 – Lot Area – 58.17 sq.m. / Total Floor Area – 101.75 sq m	P	1,550,000.00
KBPI 187	No. 57, Samar Avenue, Brgy. South Triangle, Quezon City Bungalow with basement and concrete framed building. It has two (2) living rooms, dining room, open terrace with rock garden, foyer, patio, lanai, four (4) bedrooms, six (6) T & Bs, maid quarter, kitchen, storage room, and laundry area at the GF, and family room, guest rooms, library, three (3) T & Bs, driver's quarter and garage at the basement level Lot Area – 1,500 sq. m. / Total Floor Area – 565 sq. m.	P	38,000,000.00 Promo price of P29.9MM
KBPI 188	No. 12 (Lot 2), Carmel Street, Fairview Park Subdivision, Brgy. Fairview West, Quezon CityVarious classroom & office building. Lot Area - 14,068 sq. m.; Floor Area – 3,708.85 sq m.	P	65,000,000.00
KBPI 191	No. 12, Jude Street, Imelda Village, Brgy. Bahay Toro, Quezon CityImproved by a two-level residential building with a single-storey extension type structure. With 3 bedrooms and 2 T & Bs. Lot Area – 252 sq. m. / Floor Area – 102.91 sq. m.	P	3,000,000.00
	Ivory Crest Mansion, Gilmore Avenue corner 11TH St., New Manila, Quezon City		
KBPI 100	1. Unit 3 : Floor Area – 274.65sq m.	P	9,063,450.00
KBPI 101	2. Unit 12 : Floor Area – 264.44sq m.		8,726,520.00 @ 33,000/sq.m.
KBPI 287	Unit 102 Regalia Park, Tower B, P. Tuazon, Cubao, Quezon CityImprovement: Sinige storey residential building Floor Area – 54.04 sq m.	P	2,593,920.00 @ 48,000/sq.m.
	Vermont Square Townhomes, Sunshine Compound, Brgy. Crame, Cubao, Quezon CityConsist of Four (4) Units Condominium.		
KBPI 214	1. VS- 7 : Floor Area – 174.20 sq.m. 2. VS-10 : Floor Area – 174.20 sq.m. 3. VS-14 : Floor Area – 174.20 sq m. 4. VS-17 : Floor Area – 174.20 sq.m.	P	3,135,600.00 each @ 18,000/sq.m.
KBPI 215	No. 75, Road 2, Project 6, Quezon CityImproved by two (2) storey (split level type) residential buildingLot Area – 261.60 sq.m. / 312.06 sq m.	P	5,981,600.00
	Luxor Villas Townhomes, Santolan Road, San Juan, Metro Manila Four (4) storey concrete bldg. with parking space.		
KBPI 117	1. Unit 4 : Floor Area – 280.00sq m.	P	7,280,000.00
KBPI 118	2. Unit 5 : Floor Area – 280.00sq m.		each @
KBPI 119	3. Unit 9 : Floor Area – 280.00sq m.		26,000/sq.m.
KBPI 193	No. 140, G. Reyes Street, Balong Bato, San Juan, Metro ManilaInterior lot improved by a single-storey residential building with covered carport. With 4 bedrooms and 2 T & Bs. Lot Area – 250 sq. m. / Floor Area – 154.10 sq. m.	P	4,014,650.00
KBPI 257	N. Domingo Street, San Juan, Metro ManilaImproved by one (1) storey concrete building (Office Building)Lot Area – 490sq m.; Floor Area - 185sq.m.	P	22,450,000.00

AREA III: Rizal Area

KBPI 55	Lot 10, Block 1, Mission Hills., Brgy. Muzon, Angono, Rizal Vacant Residential Lot with an area of 894 sq m. Fully developed residential subdivision which is few kilometers away from Antipolo Town Proper. Equipped with basic amenities and utilities of a middle to upper middle class subd.	P	1,609,200.00 @ 1,800/sq.m.
KBPI 241	2 Duplex located at Lot 12 & 13 Block 23 Ridgemont Avenue, Twin Peak Drive, Ridgemont Executive Subdivision, Taytay, RizalLot 12, Lot Area – 176 sq m. & Lot 13, Lot Area - 188 sq.m. ; Floor Area – 408.44 sq m.	P	5,135,396.00
KBPI 258	Lot 1 Leonardo cor. M. BorjaSt., Brgy. Dolores, Taytay, RizalImproved by One (1) Storey 27 doors Residential Apartment Building Lot Area – 677 sq.m.; Floor Area – 605.16 sq.m.	P	4,855,221.00
KBPI 202	No. 72, Magsaysay Avenue, Brgy. San Gabriel, Teresa, RizalImproved by a split type (bldg. 1) and single-storey (bldg. 2) residential buildings, both with basement and store space. Approximately 400 meters from town proper Lot Area – 313 sq. m. / Floor Area = Bldg. 1 – 122.79 sq. m. / Bldg. 2 – 69.50 sq. m	P	1,269,906.00
KBPI 268	The Heritage Park - Estate Lot Type Lot 0IE00758 Block 1	P	3,374,230.00

AREA IV: South Luzon Area

KBPI 269	Lot 11177-A-1, Barangay Anilao, Lipa City, BatangasLot Area – 10,000 sq.m.	P	3,150,000.00 @ 315/sq.m.
KBPI 233	No. 53 N. Gonzales St., Brgy. 2 Poblacion, Tanauan, BatangasImproved by Three (3) Storey School Building with H.E and Clinic BuildingLot Area - Aggregate 1,113 sq m. / Ground Floor – 812.52 sq.m./2nd Floor – 797.4 sq.m. 3rd Floor – 786.4 sq m. / H.E Buildng – 60 sq.m. / Clinic – 17.5 sq m.	P	23,370,016.00
KBPI 259	LLot 6 Blk. 47, Blue Bird St., (Road Lot 46) Canyon Woods Res Resort, Phase II, Brgy. San Gregorio, Talisay, Batangas Improved by Two (2) storey residential building Lot Area - 413 sq.m. ; Floor Area – 259 sq m.	P	8,400,000.00
KBPI 61	Capitol Hills Executive Subdivision, Treco Martinez City, CaviteVarious Vacant Residential Lots – 169 lots ranging from 39 sq. m. to 72 sq. m. lot area Classified as low to economy housing subdivision. The subdivision is located at the rear side of Cavite Capitol within the Treco Martinez Town Proper. It is a fully developed subdivision.	P	1,800.00/sq.m.
KBPI 106	Rodeo Hills Subdivision, Alfonso, CaviteVacant Residential lots – 10 lots ranging from 320 sq. m to 668 sq m. lot area	P	1,500.00/sq.m.
KBPI 107	Rodeo Countryside Estate, Alfonso, Cavite Consists of two (2) Vacant Residential Lots with lot areas of 1000 sq. m. and 2000 sq. m.	P	1,500.00/ sq.m.
	Lot 15, Blk. 2, Bravo Street, Orientville I Subdivision, Molino, Bacoor, Cavite. Lot Area – 258 sq m.		
KBPI 221	Improved by: Bldg 1: one (1) storey split level residential building / FA – 90 sq.m Bldg 2: two (2) storey residential building / FA – 95 sq m	P	1,520,000.00
KBPI 242	Barangay Lantik, Carmona CaviteLot Area – 17,700sq m. + 16,324sq m. + 1,536sq.m. = 35,560 sq m. @ P1,700/sq.m.	P	60,452,000.00 @ 1,700/sq.m.
KBPI 183	Lot 14 & 16, Blk. 29, Road 28, Town & Country Dasmariñas, Brgy. Burol, Dasmariñas, Cavite Vacant Lot / Lot Area = 192 sq m.	P	768,000.00 @ 4,000/sq.m.
KBPI 194	Lot 33, Block 12, Cityview Dasmariñas III Subdivision, Bo. Malinta, Dasmariñas, Cavite Vacant lot with an area of 592 sq m.	P	473,600.00 @ 800.00/sq.m.
KBPI 263	Lot 3 Blk. 20 Edenweiss LP-1 St., Greenwood Subdivision, Phase 1, Paliparan Road Ext., Barangay Paliparan, Dasmariñas, CaviteImproved by one (1) storey residential building. Lot Area– 120sq m.; Floor Area– 43.90sq.m.	P	1,109,903.00
KBPI 270	No. 421 Saratosa St., La Mediterranea Subdivision, Governor Drive, Dasmariñas, CaviteLot Area – 108.00 sq.m.; Floor Area = 87.00 sq m.	P	1,213,309.00
KBPI 271	Lot 7 Block 30 Stateland Subdivision, Phase I, Buenavista, General Trias, Cavite City Vacant Lot Lot Area – 523 sq m.	P	627,600.00 @ 1,200/sq.m.
KBPI 114	Lot 833 Plan GSS-877 Bo. San Vicente, San Pedro, Laguna Vacant Lot / Lot Area – 841 sq.m.	P	1,850,200.00 @ 2,200/sq.m.
KBPI 222	Pennsylvania corner Utah Streets, Town & Country Southville Subd., Biñan, LagunaVacant Lot / Lot Area = 262 sq.m	P	733,600.00 @ 2,800/sq.m.
KBPI 236	No. 285 J. Gonzales St., Poblacion, Biñan, LagunaAggregate Lot Area – 2,085 sq.m. Improved by. Bldg. 1: Two (2) Storey Commercial / Residential Building - TFA - 513.6 sq m. Bldg 2: Movie House - TFA - 1,237.92 sq m. Bldg. 3. Single Storey Residential Building / FA - 158.65 sq.m.	P	51,665,000.00
KBPI 111	Taguntong Hills, Taysan, Legaspi City A lot uphill along Legazpi-Manito traverse road, improved by a two-storey residential building (upper level) while the lower level consists of 3-door apartment units. Location is about 5 kms. road-distant from Legazpi City Proper. LA – 2,548 sq. m. / FA – 507.38 sq m	P	6,642,000.00
KBPI 112	Four (4) adjoining residential lots with a total area of 479 sq. m., situated along the Legazpi-Manito National Highway. With two-storey townhouse unit with basement. Overlooking Mayon Volcano	P	3,118,000.00

AREA V: North Luzon Area

KBPI 10	Unit #2 & Unit #3, Eagle Crest Townhouse Phase 1, Bakakeng Norte Road,	P	2,275,500.00
KBPI 11	Baguio City Townhouse Unit – LA – 120 sq. m. & FA – 162 sq. m.; Eagle crest is about 3 km. away from Marcos Highway. Within the vicinity are Tierra Crest Villas, Richmond Estate, Ciudad Grande & Richgate Subdivision; The unit is a 3-level townhouse w/ basement which consists of 2 big BR & 3 T&B ; It is also equipped with fireplace and water supply is substantial.; Public transportation is available within the site.		each
KBPI 120	Unit AT – C18 Amville Court Townhouse, Justice Village, Baguio City Lot Area – 152.311 / Floor Area – 108sq.m.	P	2,132,000.00
	Katubkian Homes Subdivision, Barangay Tabe, Guiguinto, Bulacan		
KBPI 250	1. Block 1 Lot 4 : Lot Area – 79 sq m. / Floor Area – 42 sq.m.	P	265,500.00
KBPI 251	2. Block 4 Lot 7 : Lot Area – 135 sq.m. / Floor Area – 100 sq m.		427,300.00
KBPI 252	3. Block 7 Lot 10 : Lot Area – 135 sq m. / Floor Area – 30.25 sq.m.		400,137.50
KBPI 253	4. Block 9 Lot 62 . Lot Area – 78 sq m. @ P2,300/sq m.		179,400.00
KBPI 255	5. Block 10 Lot 2 : Lot Area – 140 sq m. @ P700/sq m.		98,000.00
KBPI 256	6. Block 10 Lot 4 : Lot Area – 78 sq.m. @ P700/sq m.		54,000.00
	Residential lot improved by a single-storey residential building located at Road Lot 4, Hilltop Subdivision, Cabanatuan City		
KBPI 148	Lot 19 Block 1 : Lot Area – 240 sq m. / Floor Area – 240 sq.m.	P	800,000.00
KBPI 149	Lot 18 Block 1 : Lot Area – 240 sq m. / Floor Area – 240 sq m.	P	800,000.00
KBPI 243	383 Bonuan Binloc, Dagupan City2 Storey residential building – 93% FinishedLot Area – 219 sq m. ; Floor Area – 178.50 sq m.	P	1,700,000.00
KBPI 244	Bo. Talabutab Sur, General Natividad, Nueva EcijaLot Area – 20,000 sq.m.	P	1,500,000.00 @ 75.00/sq.m.
KBPI 225	Lot 1-1-2, Brgy. Perez Ilang, Poblacion, San Carlos City, Pangasinan Vacant Lot / Lot Area – 272 sq.m	P	204,000.00 @ 750/sq.m.

AREA VI: Visayas and Mindanao Area

KBPI 184	Roxas Avenue Extension, Brgy. Andagao, Kalibo, AklanTwo-storey building with a total floor area of approximately 338 sq m. and a lot area of 543 sq m.; Former bank branch site. (With income from existing lease contract with another bank)	P	14,500,000.00
KBPI 182	Brgy. Hagdan, Gunatarcan Island, Sta. Fe, Cebu CityVacant agricultural land, 0.61 ha. Consisting of four (4) adjoining lots and is being classified as Agricultural. It is about 600 meters away from Hagdan Elementary School. (Tax Declaration only)	P	152,500.00 @ 25.00/sq.m.
KBPI 231	Bo. Marigondon, Lapu – Lapu CityVacant Lot / Lot Area – 4,618 sq.m.	P	2,309,000.00 @ 500/sq.m.
KBPI 232	Bo. Agus, Lapu – Lapu CityVacant Lot / Lot Area – 1,835 sq.m.	P	2,752,500.00 @ 1,500/sq.m.
KBPI 151	Corner Muelle Loney Street, Iloilo CityVacant Lot. Approximately 100 meters southeast of Iznart Street and about 1 km. from Iloilo City Hall Lot Area – 4761 sq.m.	P	13,710,000.00
KBPI 160	L. J. Ledesma Subdivision, Brgy. Buhang, Jaro, Iloilo CityConsisting of 63 vacant residential Lots with an average area of 00 sq. m. Site is approximately 15 minutes drive from the city proper.	P	1,500.00/sq.m.
KBPI 185	Petalsville Subdivision, Brgy. Tabuk Suba, Jaro, Iloilo CityVacant lots with partial developed residential subdivision, consising of 192 lots with an aggregate area of 48,419 sq. m.; Approximately 400 meters northwest from the national road and about 2 kms. Northeast of Municipality of Jaro.	P	800.00/sq.m. to 1,000.00/sq.m.
KBPI 204	Brgy. Buhang, Jaro, Iloilo CityResidential vacant lot. Approximately 200 meters from National Highway and about 15 minutes drive from Jaro Plaza. Lot Area – 500 sq.m.	P	500,000.00 @ 1,000/sq.m.
KBPI 205	Brgy. Gawahon, Sitio. Padios, Sara, Iloilo CityFour (4) adjoining lots mostly utilized as riceland, improved by a split level residential / farm house with five (5) bedrooms. Aggregate Lot Area = 229,572 sq.m. ; Floor Area – 338 sq.m.	P	3,082,000.00
KBPI 265	E. Reyes Avenue, Barangay Poblacion Zone II, Estancia, Iloilo One (1) storey concrete building – Commercial BuildingLot Area – 192 sq.m.; Floor Area – 192 sq.m.	P	3,264,000.00
KBPI 235	No. 29 Quezon Avenue, Cotabato CityImproved by: One (1) Storey Residential Building / Two (2) Storey Residential Building & Six (6) doors Apartment Aggregate Lot Area – 811 sq.m. ; Floor Area – 369.98 sq m.	P	14,598,000.00
KBPI 228	Corner Trade School Drive and C. Dacudao Street, Barrio Obrero, Davao City Improved by Split level one (1) storey residential buildingLot Area – 528 sq.m. / Floor Area – 216 sq.m.	P	4,165,000.00
KBPI 229	Emerald St., Ecoland Subd., Phase IV, Barangay Matina, Davao City Improved by one (1) storey residential building Lot Area – 470 sq.m. / Floor Area – 120 sq.m.	P	2,490,000.00
KBPI 230	Pioneer Drive corner Unnamed Road, Jerosa SubdivisionBarangay Bajada, Davao City Two (2) adjoining vacant lot. Lot Area – 1,298 sq.m.	P	4,543,000.00 @ 3,500/sq.m.
KBPI 246	J.P. Cabaguio Avenue, Barangay Agdao, Davao CityLot Area – 736 sq.m.	P	8,832,000.00 @ 12,000/sq.m.
KBPI 260	D. Suazo St., Poblacion, Davao CityCommercial building no value given Lot Area – 162 sq.m.	P	3,807,000.00 @ 23,500/sq.m.
KBPI 261	Belisario Heights, Buhangin, Davao City Vacant Lot; Lot Area - 1000 sq m.	P	2,000,000.00 @ 2,000/sq.m.
KBPI 226	Barrio Bula, General Santos CityVacant Lot / Lot Area – 6,824 sq.m.	P	2,729,600.00 @ 400/sq.m.
KBPI 247	Peres Subdivision, Purok Malakas, General Santos City One (1) storey residential building with roof deck and basement Lot Area – 500 sq.m./ Floor Area – 150 sq.m.	P	1,091,625.00
KBPI 248	Adelfa St., Polomolok, South Cotabato – Vacant Lot Vacant Lot / Lot Area 192 sq m	P	76,800.00 @ 400/sq.m.
KBPI 249	Interior Macrohon Drive, Canelar Point Trade Center Canelar St., Zamboanga City With proposed two (2) storey apartment building (35% Finished) Lot Area – 665 sq.m. ; Floor Area – 143.40 sq.m.	P	3,030,770.00
KBPI 234	Capisan, Upper San Roque, Zamboanga City Vacant Lot / Lot Area – 9,491 sq m.	P	94,910.00 @ 10.00/sq.m.
KBPI 227	No. 185 Sta. Barbara St., Zamboanga CityImproved by Four (4) Bedroom Two (2) Storey Residential BuildingLot Area – 343 sq.m / Total Floor Area – 229.35 sq m.	P	2,216,600.00
KBPI 93	No. 26-A Sta. Barbara, Zamboanga City. House & Lot – LA-500 sq m.; FA-191.70 sq. m. Two (2) adjoining lots with a total area of 500 sq m. (250 sq. m. per lot), improved by a concrete single-storey residential building with a floor area of 144.27 sq. m. With five (5) bedrooms and two (2) toilet & bathrooms	P	1,600,000.00

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1.) The BUYER receives and accepts the property on an "AS-IS WHERE-IS" basis. "AS-IS WHERE-IS" basis shall mean that the SELLER makes no warranty as to the quality and physical condition of the property and that the BUYER buys and takes it in the condition that it is found and from the place where it is located, as well as all legal actions and encumbrances on the property that the BUYER knows or ought to know.

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Dofel 942-6877

HOUSE & LOT

ALABANG

THE MEADOWS
via Alabang
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•within the periphery of Madrigal Business Park
As low as
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HOUSE & LOT

LAGUNA

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

HOUSE & LOT

LAGUNA

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

HOUSE & LOT

LAGUNA

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OPEN HOUSE TODAY
SWIMMING POOL
RIGHT BESIDE ST SCHOLASTICA'S COLLEGE
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CONDO/TWNHSE

TAGUIG

CONDO/TWNHSE

TAGUIG

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RIZAL

BIRMINGHAM
Place2/Homes/Sunrise
H&L/Lot/Twnhse
San Mateo 2br1tb grg P1Mup
Cainta 3br 2tb garage P1.5M
Antipolo 2br2tb grge P1.150T
NORMA 656-5907
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FOR SALE / LEASE
MERVILLE HOUSE & LOT LA:586m²; 5 Big Rooms; 5 TB w/ Maids Rm & Drivers Quarter w/ T&B each; 6-Car Garage; Centralized Hot & Cold
Water.Tel. Nos. 821-6409
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KALOOCAN

CAMARIN CAL CITY LA 240m² FA 104m² 2Bdrms 1T&B P1.2M Vic / Gie 8903461 loc 27

LAS PINAS

259m² Hse 414m² Lot+Grge Rush Sale Leaving for Canada DBO 820-9731/0917-5376097

910T BF RESORT 8054686

MANILA

NEAR LA SALLE
BnewTwnhse/3stry/3br/3tb/grge P3.440M 8903461 loc 34

Sing nr St.Sch La Sal 5268632

MARIKINA

Bnew 4BR 3TB 2.4M 9487112

PARANAQUE

Can't Beat Price New 3BR/3B Nice Subd. 09178400295

LOT

QUEZON CITY

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Call Nick 921-5718

HOUSE & LOT

PASIG

DE CASTRO SUBD 2 Stry P1.8M LA 321m² FA 271m² 6Bdrms 2T&B Vic 8903461 loc 27

QUEZON CITY

C'wealth 2Sty 400m² 6BR 4TB 5CG 430-0530/0917-5376853

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P381,000/unit condo 2Kms fr. SM Fairview Lipat Agad/Pag-Ibig 8179650 / 9750 / 0919-2302120

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B/New H/L 1st Class
Urban-Tropical
Style w/ Vigan bricks
FOR SALE
- 4br + 4 baths & 1 Ante room
- High ceiling living room
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QUEZON CITY

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NEGOTIABLE
SAMAR AVE
nr GMA7 QC
4BR3TB 375m² 9.5M Bunglow
Tita 09194014983 /9511624

TEACHERS VILL
5BR 4TB 2Car Grge 9132701
9132403 / 09189356366

RIZAL

Bargain: House&Lot 246m² M.Constellation Subd 295-4856 • 648-5941 RUSH

BIRMINGHAM
Place2/Homes/Sunrise
H&L/Lot/Twnhse
San Mateo 2br1tb grg P1Mup
Cainta 3br 2tb garage P1.5M
Antipolo 2br2tb grge P1.150T
Belen Reyes 655-0134
L.B.Lee Realty 931-8425

Res Kingville Subd
Bet 5320501 • 09204069108

OTHER AREAS

Nova Citation Homes 150 sqm 1.3M 2T 4BR grge grden 5221875

BAGUIO

BAGUIO BUNG-P2M
2BR/2TB FF 9122304-5847

BATANGAS

AYALA PROPERTY AT STO TOMAS BATANGAS 364 SQM. HOUSE N LOT 2.5M NEG 500T DP BAL 2 YRS TO PAY W/O INT 0918-9424538

CAVITE

4BR 2T&B 221m² 2.5M Myrna 046-4722913 Bacoor Cavite

LAGUNA

LAGUNA BEL-AIR LA 132m² 3Bdrms 2T&B FA84m² P1.85M Vic 8903461 loc 27/25

METROVILLE SUBD LA 122m² 2Bdrms 1T&B FA 61.28m² P1.2M Vic 8903461 loc 27

MILAN CAMELLA HOMES 3Stry FA210m² LA 78m² P1.9M Vic 8903461 loc 27/25

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

1.6M C5 Nr The Fort
12T/mo. or 3Yrs No Int. or 10% D.P. LIPAT AGAD 2-4BR 15min Fr Mkti 0917-8313226

Oriental Garden No DP only 12T/Mordy by Sept. '04 Berny 5517649/09189282591

RUSH SALE!!!!
NEGOTIABLE
MAKATI CONDO
55m² with 1BR / Kitchen/T&B
Tita 09194014983 /9511624

MKT NR AYALA
BnewTwnhse/3stry/3br/2tb/grge P3.280M 8903461 loc 34

MANILA

989 Ofc. Unit 0920-8309744

ESPANA TOWER
nr UST 0917-8102903

PASIG

VALLE VERDE 2 P2M
3BR+Pkg9125847 *9510647

QUEZON CITY

AYALA WOODSIDE NEW MLA
MONTGOMERY 3BR RFO
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All concrete w/roofdeck exclsve
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439-6921 ; 437-0769

PROJ8 3br 4.5M 0917-8493699

SAN JUAN

2BR 2T&B 2.6M 727-4840

OTHER PROVINCIAL

Town House & Lot 126 sq.m
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BAGUIO

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VARIED AREAS

Condo For Sale QC, Mkti, Pasay, Studio 1BR-3BR, RFO, Txt or Call 0919-7899271

APARTMENT

MAKATI

BelAir Studio P11T Furn 8957972

MANILA

7 Doors + 1 unit 249.20m² P8M San Andres Bukid DBO Jane 075-5240069 • 0927-4003056

LAGUNA

3Dr 2Sty Apt. LA120 FA 180 Metroville Sta. Rosa Laguna Popoy 0917-5441746

LOT

ALABANG

Hillsborough 400sqm
9T/sqm Call Ding • 633-6205

KALOOCAN

1440m² w/ Bodega Ofc Bldg P14T/m² neg 9419740 Hanna

RAINBOW VILLAGE 5 LA 216m² P3,473/m² Vic 8903461 loc 25

LAS PINAS

TALON 204m²@P4,000
639-1694 / 0917-8102903

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

LOT

PARANAQUE

Molave 632m² 2cor. 6780506

PASIG

Kawilihan 300m² 727-4840

METROVILLE SUBD LA 333m² P4,054/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

RUSH PASIG LOT 9M CALL JANI 09209238597 9301782-AYEN0916-7157627

QUEZON CITY

Ayala Hts 7001393

KAMUNING RD 450 SM CALL ULY 0917-7954928 / 2871221

New Mla / Rolling Hills
700-1393 / 724-0394

Nrt Susana 230m² 412-1825

VILLA ESPANA LA 108.50m² P12,000/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

PROVINCIAL

★TAGAYTAY COLDEST★
Along H-way low dp/mo. 240m²-up nr Taal Vista-Totie 660-9372

RIZAL

Alg Sumulong Antipolo 3749m² good4gas station 09178102903

Antipolo,Circumferential Rd com'l 216m² 0917-8102903

Binangonan 7000m² 660-9223

Cainta 300-900m² 0917-8493699

SAN JUAN

533m² P11M neg J. Wright
Call • 631-6670

OTHER AREAS

TOWN & COUNTRY HILLS LA 240m² P3,125/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

VILLA LIGAYA LA 149m² & 134m² P3,534/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

BAGUIO

Takai Road 6200m² 660-9223

BATANGAS

RANCHO VISTA SUBD LA 613m² P2,284/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

TAAL BTGS nr Diversion Rd 6794m² P185.50/m² Vic 8903461

BULACAN

SAN MIGUEL BUL 4000 m² P180/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

TOWN & COUNTRY LA 180m² P2,900/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

CAVITE

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LAGUNA

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MLA NORTH 2513527

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BULACAN

SAN MIGUEL BUL 4000m² P180/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

BATANGAS

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CLUB SHARE & MEMBERSHIP

Fontana "C"-130T "D"-65T
Universal Leizure-500T
Call Ofc Hrs 9226306;9220048

WANTED TO BUY

EDUC PLAN 2528373/2557990

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

COMMERCIAL

QUEZON CITY

Alg Rd Cmnwealth 9218376

HOUSE

MAKATI

Bful Magallanes 90T 8691937

PARANAQUE

4br 3tb bment 2car garage 15000/mo. 826-7250 Leo

PASIG

3BR 2TB KAWILIHAN VILL CALL 671-2152

QUEZON CITY

2BR Hse Sugartown Q.C. 7501376 / 09208324049 Dan

Grennmeadows Nice 5BR House P65T/mo 6337601-03

CONDO/TWNHSE

KALOOCAN

NEW 1BR•2BR COM'L
CLINIC•OFFICE•P6.5Tup
#162 P. Jacinto cor. #39 Bigtang Awa
Caloocan 323-0175

MAKATI

1BR P18T/mo 2BR P30T/mo FF
Roby • 0918-9257904

Furn 1BR SthStar 844-7524

NEW STUDIO / Coml / 2BR 6.5Tup 1672 Dian St. Mkti 843-9418•0918 9390355 Rose

MANILA

MANILA ASTRAL TOWER front of PGH 1Brm Furn w/ tel P15T /mo. T-09165303026 or 09163195058 / 8509893

• V. Cruz nr H. Plaza 1BR 8T 2BR 15T • Asia Wealth Twr 12T/mo. FF 5517649 / 09189282591

MANDALUYONG

PARAGON PLAZA PENT-HOUSE Brand new 234sm w/ 2-parking 3BR.5TB T5277616 Violy.Rosa

PASAY

1BR 2BR STUDIO P7.5T UP 1836 Leveriza, Pasay Tel. 4004336

QUEZON CITY

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Cubao 7237351 4158141

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

CONDO/TWNHSE

QUEZON CITY

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New Mla 3br 09178493699

OHT-3 2br furnish Unit 17-H East Wood City Libis 633-0164

SAN JUAN

2BEDRM 2BATHRM CONDO UNIT ACROSS ICA ACSBLE 2GHILLS CALL 7245940

LAGUNA

•Condo For Rent Near LaSalle Taft Manila 8T Txt or Call 0916-3144377 Edna

APARTMENT

MAKATI

2BR, 2TB, 12T SAV 8992148

2BR APT 1TB TEL GRGE HONDA ST P14T (0917)8318551 TEL 5214063

Nr AYALA 870-8848 11T

MANILA

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2BR Apart@7,500/mo.
Vangie 0920-5112950
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BRAND NEW STUDIO FRISCO NR PANTRANCO 3730208

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•FOR LEASE•
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SAN JUAN

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WAREHOUSE/ FACTORY

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ROOM & BOARD

2 Ldys 4T QC 4154327 Free L/W

2Female SMV,Mkti 8389932

FAIRVIEW
NR FEU HOSP. BIG ROOMS
ALL NEW 0920-2648159

P120I Mla 7118679 4113301

Rooms w/Parking-San Juan P7000up Call 0917-4814186

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CITYLAND ULTRA 688-8582

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2% W/O TAKING CAR 3677523/24

FINANCING-EASY FAST VERY PRIVATE CONVENIENT H/L BUSINESS PERSONAL Gigle Ernie 8903461 loc 25/23

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REAL ESTATE FOR SALE OR RENT

COMMERCIAL

Comml/Resdl 1000sqm for Rent or Sale 09205806363

Factory/Whse for Sale/ Rent Mrkna Heights Mrkna City 5040sqm 3Bldg with Canteen and Exec 4 Bedroom Flat 10 Car/Truck Garage land mark: Iglesia Ni Cristo Parang Mkna . . . Contact: Dinah S Coo 9482881 / 82

HOUSE & LOT

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CONDO/TWHSE/ FOR SALE/RENT

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Tel 637-4259 /60 Magie

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'98 Spacegear Loc 37t Mig Orig Paint 645T Call 535-7310•0917-8445634

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Frontier '01 1st Own All Orig 535T Call 535-7310 0917-8445634 Julius

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1.5% 1HR CAR LOAN3743803

1.5% w/oTaking Car 3732081-82

•1HR Fast Car Loan 7125202•

2% w/o Taking Car 7262780

2% w/oTaking Car 8959454

2% w/oTaking Car 8870490/95

2% w/oTaking Car 8966630/33

2% w/oTaking Car 7221021

2% w/oTaking Car 7228942-43

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PETS

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GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

PETS

PCCI
314th PCCI & 315th PCCI
ALL-BREEDS DOGSHOWS
RIVERBANKS CENTER
MARIKINA CITY
FEBRUARY 28-29, 2004
UNDER INT'L JUDGES
Ms. Christina Rafton
(Australia-)
Mr. Keith Simmons
(New Zealand)
STRICLY NO ADDENDUM
SHOW SCHEDULE
Sunday,
February 29, 2004
8:00 AM - Registration
8:30 AM - Judging
Ring 1 - Non-Sporting & Herding Group
Ring 2 - Herding & Non-Sporting Group
12:00 NN - Lunch Break
12:30 PM - Registration
1:00 PM - Judging
Ring 1 - Boxer, Rottweiler, G. Dane, Dobe, Husky
Ring 2 - S Husky, Dobe, G Dane, Boxer, Rottweiler
Best in Show

As per AO # 32 S2000 of the Department of Agriculture Exhibitors are required to bring the updated vaccination records of their dogs duly certified by a Veterinarian with an updated PRC license and PTR.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

ANNOUNCEMENT

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For more information, please write clearly in English to:
Almanat, P.O. Box 15391
Riyadh 11444 Saudi Arabia
Email:amt055@hotmail.com

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late **ALBINA MATIAS** was extra-judicially settled with self-adjudication by her sole heir **MARINEL M. SARMIENTO** per Doc. No. 268, Page 54, Book I, Series of 2004 before Notary Public Atty. Wendell E. Coronel of Makati.
PDI–Feb. 29, March 7 & 14, 2004

NOTICE OF LOSS

Notice is given that Ayala Land, Inc. stock certificates series #2196F, #21899F, #8002674F, #8014699F, #8020212F, #8050207F, #8076559F, #8105167F, #8135196F, #8174094F, #8203878F issued to FE U. CHUA were lost. If no contest received new certificates will be issued.
(PDI-Feb. 29, Mar. 7 & 14, 2004)

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

12%/mon. 14T 0922-8053727

Hu Do u knw In Singapore?
8531008 09178901851
edmextranew.com Code: ATB2004

I NEED MEDICINES HOSP SUPPLIES & EQUIPT ANY QNTY TXT /CALL09275282875 Kristine

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ICE CREAM MACHINE !!
@ P190T B-NEW, SEA SSI-250 with FREE Premix Recipe, also Rubber Stamp Machine, Key Duplicator Fill/Form/Label/Meat Processor and other Business Machine. Also Detergent Powder @ P15.60/kl. 6542183 8512827

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Earn up to 100k/mo 7423327

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Green Iced Tea 09178951579

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Female GS/P.E. Teachers Novaliches Area • 930-9282

INTERIOR DESIGNER/SALES EXECUTIVE 22-30 Female w/ pleasing personality. Experienced in furniture showroom 8203491 8255789

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LOT 5-B, BRGY. STA. INES SAN MIGUEL, BULACAN

- 23,410 square meter agricultural lot covered by T-175070 registered under the name of Key Lending Investor Inc.
- Planted with 57 productive mango trees & palay.

Php 6,000,000.00

NO. 87 MORGA COMPOUND, BRGY. LANGKA MEYCAUAYAN, BULACAN

- 207 square meter residential lot with a total floor area of 30.00 square meter covered by TCT No. T-44335 P (M) registered under the name of Key Lending Investors Inc.

Php 456,225.00

LOT 12 BLK 3 AREA C, TANGUILE ST., SAN MARTIN II SAPANGPALAY, SAN JOSE DEL MONTE, BULACAN

- 189.00 square meter residential lot with a total floor area of 25.00 square meter covered by TCT No. T-15594 registered under the name of Key Lending Investor Inc.

Php 275,000.00

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ACCOUNTING STAFF (CODE: AS)

Requirements:

- Candidates must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree or Professional License (CPA) in Finance /Accountancy/Banking or equivalent.
- Male/Female, 21-29 years old with 1-4 years experience in Finance-General/ Cost Accounting or equivalent.
- Must be computer literate with experience / knowledge in inventory management, data analysis, report generation and auditing
- Can work independently, honest, hardworking and able to work

PRODUCT SPECIALIST (CODE: PS)

Requirements:

- Candidates must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree in Engineering (Computer/Telecommunication), Computer Science/ Information Technology, Business Studies/Administration/Management, Sales & Marketing or equivalent.
- Male/Female, 21-28 years old
- At least 1 year of working experience in selling Servers, PC's, Notebooks, Desktop Replacement, IT Training and Wireless Hardware Solutions to dealers, corporate accounts, government entities and educational institutions.
- With pleasing personality, good interpersonal, presentation, telemarketing and good negotiation skills
- Honest, result-oriented, hard-working and able to handle

TECHNICAL SUPPORT (CODE: TS)

Requirements:

- Candidates must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree in Engineering (Computer/Electrical/Electronics Communications) or equivalent
- Male, 21-29 years old with 2 years technical experience in server configuration/ troubleshooting and network solutions (hardware and software)
- Familiar with platforms such as Windows NT/2000, Novell, Linux, Windows 2000 Server and XP Pro
- Experience in doing product presentations and solution selling is an advantage.

Interested parties may forward their resume to:
3/F BB Corporate Center
32 Pilar cor Araullo Sts , Addition Hills,
San Juan, Metro Manila • E-mail gayle@banbros ph

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- 3-day entrepreneurship seminar for OFWs and their families
- Business matching activities and meetings
- Entrepreneurship presentations of participating companies
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- City tours for OFWs and their families

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- Pagnenegosyo 101/Entrepreneurship Basic
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Day before publication

ENGR. NESTOR SALVATERA

of Claveria, Cagayan
Died peacefully on February 22, 2004 at the age of 55.

His loving wife **Hedy**; children **Cromwell, Iris, Sheryl** and **Koren**; mother, **Conchita Salvatera**; brothers **Cesong, Nory** and **Walter**; sisters **Norma, Eva, Fely, Monica, Bernadette** and **Marites** request the readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at La Funeraria Paz (Chapel A1), Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Eulogy at 6:00 p.m. Sunday, interment will be on Tuesday at Loyola Memorial Park at 8:00 a.m. after the Mass.

LEONIDA ARCAL VASQUEZ

of Tanza, Cavite; Tangos, Navotas and
Pilar Village, Las Piñas City

Peacefully passed away on February 27, 2004
at the age of 90.

A loving mother to her children and children-in-law **Diding & Erlin, Neneng, Sally & Ruben, Abe & Eva, Baby & Ted, Evan, Eden, Jun & Susan** and a caring **"Nanay"** to her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Her body lies in state at the Jose Rizal Chapel, La Funeraria Paz-Sucat (inside Manila Memorial Park) Parañaque City.

Interment will be announced on a later date.

MESSAGE OF THANKS

The late family of

CLARA ANGELA A. CAJILIG

our daughter,
who died on February 13, 2004,
wish to say thank you to all our
families and friends who
supported and offered their
prayers and condoled with us
during our bereavement.

Efren, Bebot and Gef Cajilig

> **"...absent with the body to be present with the Lord."** — 2 Corinthians 5:8

For the needs of your departed Loved Ones, the following establishments can help you.

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Republic of the Philippines to Department of Labor
TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PROJECT
TESDA Complex, East Service Road, South Super Highway
Fort Bonifacio, Taguig, Metro Manila

INVITATION FOR PREQUALIFICATION

ADB-CW-IFP-01b

Date of Advertisement
ADB Loan no. 1750 PHI
OPEC Loan no. 841 P

1. The Republic of the Philippines has received a loan from the OPEC Fund for International Development towards the cost of financing the civil works component of the Technical Education and Skills Development Project (TESDP) under the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA). The Project is jointly financed by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), OPEC Fund for International Development, NORDIC Development Fund and the DANIDA Mixed Credit. The eligibility rules and procedures of ADB will govern the prequalification and the bidding process.
2. The Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (hereinafter referred to as the "Employer") intends to prequalify firms for the construction/refurbishment of the Centers of Technical Excellence (CenTexes) in:

   Institution **Location**

   Region IX
   1. Kabasalan National Vocational Kabasalan, Zamboanga Sibugay School

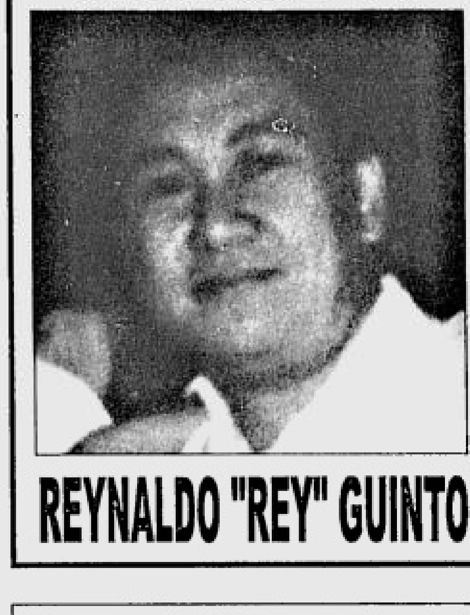
   CAR
   2. Baguio City School of Arts and Upper Session Road, Baguio City Trades
3. It is expected that the Invitation for Bids will be made on May 03 and 04, 2004.
4. Interested eligible applicants may obtain further information from the Office of the Regional Bids and Awards Committee (RBAC) and inspect the Prequalification Document at the address given below, during government working days from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm beginning March 01 to 30, 2004.
5. The Prequalification Document, in the English language, may be purchased by interested applicants on the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment in cash/ or cashier's check/ or direct deposit to TESDA Regional Office (TESDA RO) of a non-refundable fee of One Thousand Pesos (P 1,000.00). The official receipt to be issued by the TESDA RO shall serve as proof of payment and will be shown to the Office of the RBAC to pick-up the Prequalification Document.
6. Applications must be delivered to the address below at or before 12:00 noon of April 07, 2004. The Employer reserves the right to accept or reject late applications.
7. The Employer will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by the applicants in connection with the preparation or delivery of their applications.
8. The Employer will notify all applicants in writing of the names of those applicants who have been prequalified.
9. The address of RBAC in the regional offices are:

	Location/ Mailing Address	Facsimile No.	Telephone No.
Region IX	The Chairman, Regional Bids and Award Committee, San Roque, Zamboanga City	(62) 991-3229	(62) 991-3229
CAR	The Chairman, Regional Bids and Award Committee, Km. 247 Magsaysay Drive, Loakan Road, Baguio City	(74) 447-2559	(74) 447-3487

(Sgd.) **ALCESTIS M. GUIANG**
Director General

(PDI--Feb. 29 & March 7, 2004)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC



REYNALDO "REY" GUINTO

A WARRANT OF ARREST has been issued by the **Municipal Trial Court of Angeles City, Pampanga, Branch 03** against **REYNALDO "REY" GUINTO** whose picture appears herein with last known address in G.H. del Pilar St., Kalayaan Village, City of San Fernando, Pampanga.

Any information leading to his immediate arrest may be reported to **ATTY. MELVIN PANLILIO** at **Telephone Nos. (045) 892-1779, 322-5013, 625-7643.**

A considerable reward awaits any informant who could give reliable information that would lead to the arrest of the above subject.

NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY
REGION I, San Juan, La Union

NOTICE OF SALE THROUGH MARKET DETERMINED PRICING (SMDP)
SMDP Bulletin No. 2004-B-02

The National Food Authority Regional Office I, San Juan, La Union invites all interested NFA licensed grains businessmen to participate in the Sale Through Market Determined Pricing (SMDP) 8,981 bags local RMO, 4,369 bags VCER22 and 47,702 bags IECR22 more or less, stored at the different warehouses in the provinces of Ilocos Sur, La Union and Western Pangasinan.

		QUANTITY (BAGS)		
PROVINCE	WAREHOUSE LOCATION	RMO	VCER22	IECR 22
Ilocos Sur	Bantay GID, Bantay, ILS	480	3,648	6,982
	Tan Whse, Cabugao, ILS	5,897	199	3,856
	Narvacan Whse, Narvacan, ILS	2,168	—	7,451
	Tagudin, FLGC, Tagudin, ILS	486	240	2,985
	Singson Whse., Candon, ILS	—	282	4,534
La Union	Obar Whse., Balaoan, LUN	—	—	19,896
Western Pangasinan				
	Alaminos Whse, Alaminos, Pang.	—	—	1,998
	TOTAL	8,981	4,369	47,702

The indicative price for RMO and VCER 22 is set at P12.15 per kilogram and P11.35 per kilogram for IECR 22.

Sale shall be for the whole lot, ex-warehouse, "as-is, where-is" basis. Offerors shall be required to post a bid bond in the form of either cash, manager's or cashier's check payable to NFA equivalent to the following:

CLASSIFICATION	CAPITALIZATION	BID BOND
Small and Medium GB's	Up to P100,000.00	5% of bid amount
Big	More than P100,000.00	10% of bid amount

Interested parties should submit the following documents to the Regional Bids and Awards Committee (RBAC):

1. Authenticated photo copy of NFA license/registration
2. Duly Notarized authorization from the owner/chairman certifying that the representative is presently connected with the company as an official/employees and is authorized to represent the company in the SMDP and other activities pertinent therein.
3. Certification from the concerned Registration and Licensing Office where the participant is registered as to the capitalization bracket (Small – P20,000.00, Medium – P20,001.00 to P100,000.00 and Big – more than P100,000.00).

The SMDP will be conducted at the NFA Conference Room, Second Floor, NFA Regional Office, San Juan, La Union on the following schedules:

Activities	Date	Time
Issuance of Invitation to Bid and Tender Forms	March 1-3, 2004	8:00 AM to 5:00 PM
	March 4, 2004	8:00 AM – 9.00 AM
Pre-Sale Conference	March 4, 2004	10.00 AM
SMDP Proper	March 4, 2004	Immediately after Pre-Sale Conference or at the time the Committee declares

The SMDP Terms and Conditions and Tender Forms can be secured from the RBAC Secretariat at the venue specified above after paying a non-refundable fee of P300.00 per participant.

Further details and inquiries maybe addressed to the Operations Section with telephone numbers (072) 242-5907; 242-5909 and 700-2579.

The Committee reserves the right to reject any or all offers, to waive any defects or informalities found therein and accept only such offers which in its judgment are most reasonable and advantageous to the NFA. The decision of the Committee as confirmed by the undersigned shall be final.

(Sgd.) DANILO L. BONABON

(PDI – February 29 & March 2, 2004)

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www.henrybutcher.com

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MODERN INDUSTRIAL FACILITY IN PEZA ZONE

30,118m2 Land Area; 10,255 M² Building Area
Constructed 1996

Location: Rex Technologies Philippines, Inc.
LIMA Technology Center, SEZ, Malvar, Batangas

For further particulars & viewing please contact:
Agnes Tabing - Tel.: 63 2 852 2910

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GoIndustry INDUSTRIAL ASSET DISPOSAL & VALUATION
HENRY BUTCHER INTERNATIONAL PHILIPPINES INC.
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E-mail:manila@henrybutcher.com
Website: www.henrybutcher.com www.goindustry.com

NOTICE OF LOSS

AG FINANCE, INC. announces the loss of OFFICIAL RECEIPTS booklet series 0401-0500 apparently since January 2004. Any purported transactions utilizing these receipts will not be honored.

(PDI--Feb. 29, 2004)

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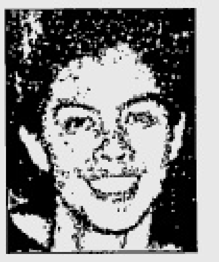
WANTED BY LAW

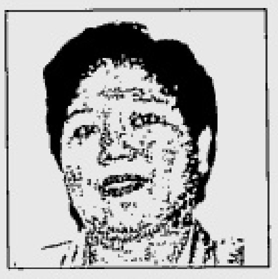


A WARRANT OF ARREST AND HOLD DEPARTURE ORDER HAVE BEEN ISSUED UNDER CRIMINAL CASE NO. 126802 FOR THE CRIME OF **ESTAFA** BY THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT BRANCH NO. 268, PASIG CITY, AGAINST **MS. VERONICA DIZON ABILLA a.k.a. "BRANDY"** OF NO. 22 NATHAN ROAD, WHITE PLAINS, QUEZON CITY.

A REWARD AWAITS ANY INFORMANT WHO COULD GIVE A RELIABLE INFORMATION THAT WOULD LEAD TO THE ARREST OF THE ABOVE SUBJECT. CONTACT CYNTHIA TEL. 721-6058 / CELL 09189203308 OR ANY OFFICER OF THE LAW BY DIALING 117.

(PDI-Feb. 29, 2004)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC



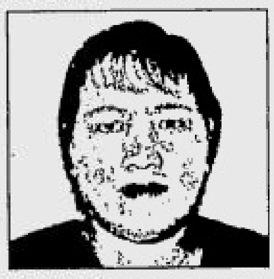
MERCEDITAS MATIAS PASIBE

The person appearing above has a pending warrant of arrest issued by the Regional Trial Court Branch 7, Legaspi City docketed as Criminal Case No. 10251 entitled "People vs. Alicia Chan Rantael and Merceditas Matias Pasibe" for qualified theft.

If you have any information regarding accused's whereabouts, please call QUISUMBING IGNACIO GUIA & LAMBINO LAW OFFICES at Tel. No. (632) 9299151.

(PDI - Feb. 29, 2004)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC



ALICIA CHAN RANTAEL

The person appearing above has two (2) pending warrants of arrest issued by the following judicial courts:

(a) Regional Trial Court - Branch 7, Legazpi City docketed as Crim Case No. 10251 entitled "People vs. Alicia Chan Rantael and Merceditas Matias Pasibe" for qualified theft; and

(b) Regional Trial Court - Branch 2, Legazpi City docketed as Crim Case No. 10252 entitled "People vs. Alicia Chan Rantael and Rica Mallari Matamorosa" for qualified theft.

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NOTICE OF SEARCH & CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The BOARD OF REGENTS of the Isabela State University formally and publicly announces that the ISU Presidency is now open. The Board, by virtue of the powers vested upon it by Republic Act 8292, has determined the following minimum qualifications for the position:

1. With earned doctorate degree preferably in Agriculture, Engineering, Arts & Sciences, Management and other related courses;
2. Must have at least five (5) years of relevant managerial and administrative experience;
3. Must be a natural born Filipino citizen with proven integrity and with no pending administrative and criminal case/s;
4. Must be at least 35 years of age but not more than 60 years old on the date of application.

Applicants are requested to submit the following:

1. Comprehensive resumé supported with authenticated documents;
2. Proposed Vision and Mission for Isabela State University;
3. List of accomplishments in previous academic, administrative and managerial positions; and
4. NBI, Ombudsman and Police Clearances and disclosure of current and pending administrative/criminal case/s.

Applicants are requested to submit at least seven (7) sets of formal application documents, not later than March 22, 2004 to Commissioner Ma. Cristina D. Padolina, Chairman, ISU Search Committee for the Presidency

c/o: **Hernando R. Gomez**
Commission on Higher Education
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Ortigas Center, Pasig City
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Star of Asia spreads spirit of entreprenuership

By Margie Quimpo-Espino

ON THE left palm of Nelia Cruz is the outline of a star.

Last Feb. 7 (Feb. 8 in Manila) Sarcol was awarded the "Star of Asia" by the 600 members of the Texas Asian Chamber of Commerce.

Sarcol is the second to receive the award. The first was CNN's Sachi Koto.

Her extemporaneous speech was greeted with a standing ovation by top executives of various firms in Texas.

Sarcol is the founder, president and CEO of CIE Global Colleges in Cebu. Her school is accredited with the British system which means a graduate of its school can be accepted in a British university provided he passes the entrance exam.

AUSTIN, Texas Mayor Will Wynn with Nelia

Sarcol's story was featured in SundayBiz last September. Since 1999, she has been receiving prestigious awards that include Most Distinguished Alumnae of UP, together with then Vice President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

Last November she was one of the Distinguished Women's Award by the Northwood University, the first Filipina to receive such an award.

Nelia quit school and became a flight attendant to see the world when she was 18. After a few years she went back and graduated magna cum laude from the University of the Philippines with a degree in education.

While studying she married Cebu-based businessman, William Sarcol. For a while Nelia was shuttling between Manila and Cebu. In 1985, she put up a school, a one-room affair.

Today she has a seven-storey building that looks like a hotel.

Spreading the spirit

Nelia helps her friends (and the country) by making them entrepreneurs.

She talks about a former education department official of the who now heads a multi-level marketing business. The professor whose earnings then could not even buy her a fare to Singapore now owns properties, a tidy retirement pay, and travels back and forth the US in style.

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She is developing a place in Cebu which she hopes to transform into a a source of fresh pearls.

Raising money

Nelia knows how to many money.

She raised P200 million to build a school building, without a bank loan. Ironically before she started constructing, she had a loan approval. But it was released after construction.

"The first thing you do is assess how much you have. And sometimes you will be surprised at the amount you hold," she points out.

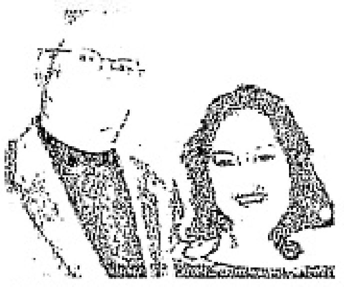
She started planning for the building in 1996 when the exchange rate stood at P26 to $1. From the time she planned the building until early 1997 banks were courting to borrow.

They estimated the building would cost P120 million. By the time it was finished the cost ballooned to P220 million.

When the Asian crisis hit in mid-1997, it was too late to back out.

Nelia sold her possessions and scrounged around for funds.

RUBEN Garcia, Susan Fifer, president of the Austine Filipino American Association, Nelia Sarcol and Julian Sanchez of Dell Computer.



DICK Hunter of Dell Computer with the awardee

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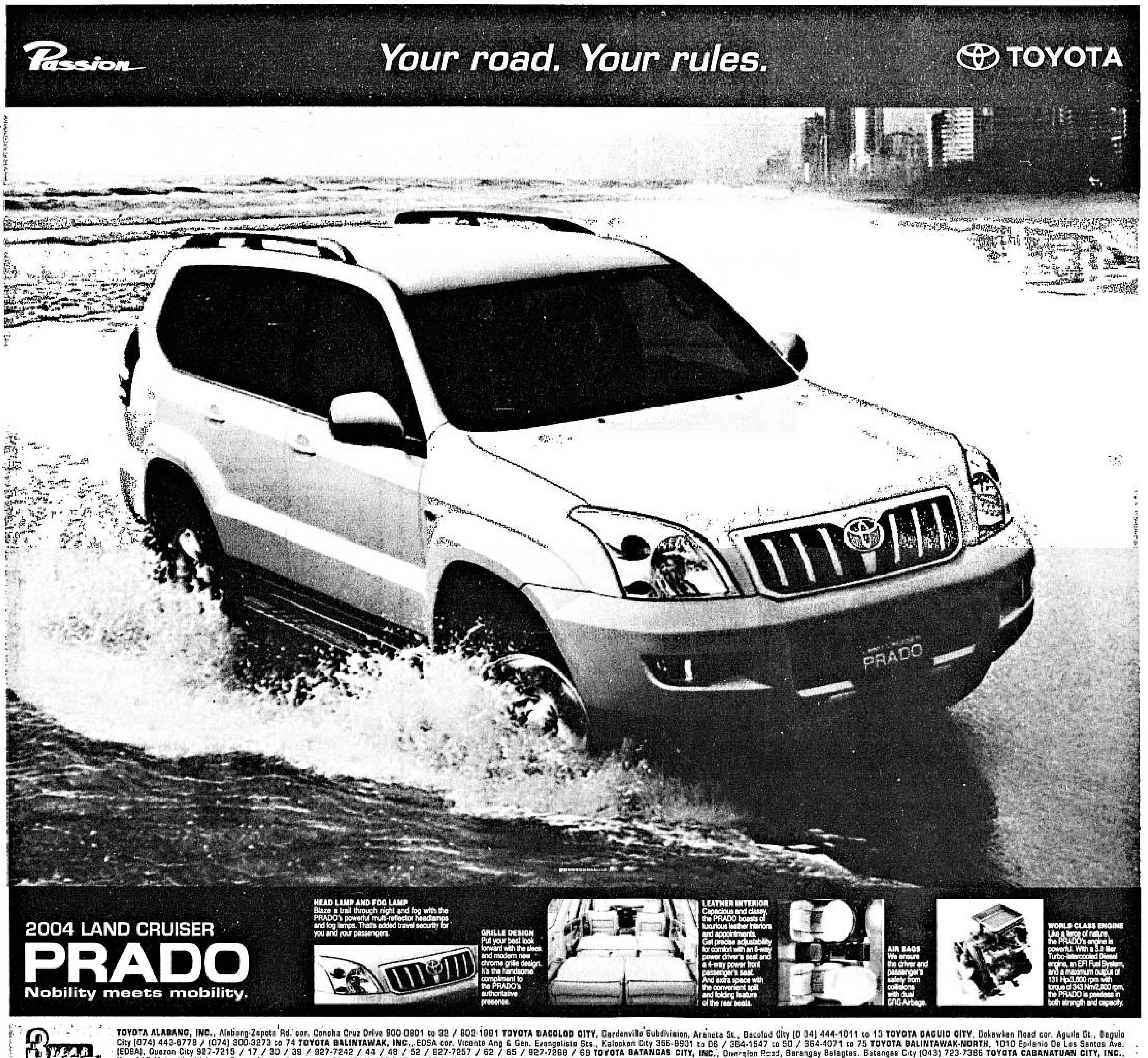

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By Margie Quimpo-Espino

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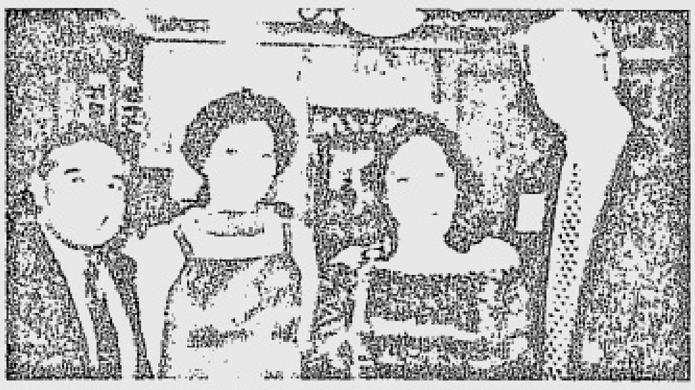

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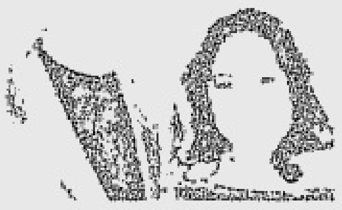

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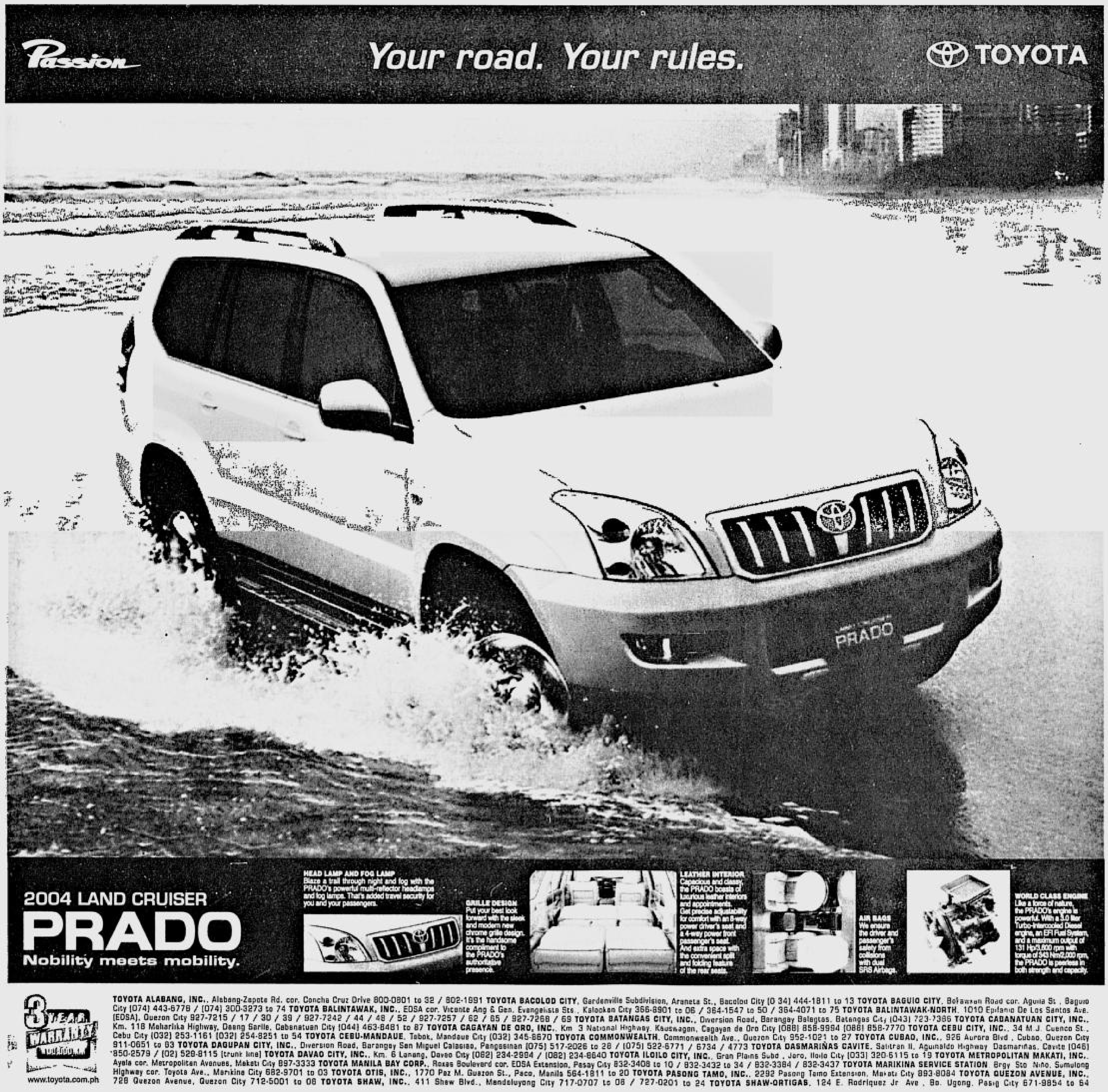

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ENTERTAINMENT

E-mail: pr_entertainment@inquirer.com.ph
Editor **Louie C. Camino**

Assunta, Jules on March 14 nuptials:
Heck! It could be love

By Nini Valera

THE BRIDE'S gown is by Vera Wang. Her veil is by hip designer Rhett Eala. The look will mimic the Ramon Valera gown worn by the groom's mother more than four decades ago.

The groom will wear a tuxedo made by an "appropriate" designer, who he does not name.

And in this fashion, Negros Oriental 1st District Rep. Jules Ledesma and actress Assunta de Rossi will walk down the aisle of Sanctuario de San Antonio in Forbes Park, Makati, on March 14 to solemnize their union through Holy Matrimony.

Fulfilling his promise

In marrying Assunta in church, Jules is also fulfilling a promised he made to his aunt, Sr. Cristina Augusta on the eve of the couple's civil wedding in San Carlos City on Dec. 14, 2002.

He explained in an e-mail he had sent INQUIRER Entertainment on Friday, that Sr. Cristina wrote him a note the night before his civil wedding to Assunta, which said in part: "While you are going to legitimize tomorrow your relationship, please don't forget that this is not enough. It is still necessary, that you be wed in Church and be sealed in a covenant with the Lord through the Sacrament of Matrimony.

"That some think it is O.A. is lamentable," wrote Jules in his e-mail. "That they espouse it is regrettable. Perhaps if they had gone through our trials and travails they would realize the value of us seeing this whole odyssey through to its logical conclusion.

"To have stopped short of the goal would not only have been a tragedy. It would have made for naught all that we've been through.

"That we came out of the other side, scarred certainly, altered yet whole, is a testament to our relationship as all my family, Assunta, (his children) Cristina, Julio Carlos (by his late wife), and I, and to the Lord's blessings, truly believe that without Him as Lord, no way, Jose.

The e-mail continued, "I have yet to come across a couple—in this case a family that has had to start out its nascent life as a core unit, with more trials and under greater scrutiny, malaise, ill-will from mostly all others than my immediate family. That through it all, preconceptions with regard to motives and or agendas, were always lingering—nobody believing that, heck, it could be love! So sad...

Happy ending

"And finally, with a sense of brooding and woeful anticipation of when the other shoe would drop. All this when we should have been sent off with vignettes such as that which we all watched and loved in the movies 'Father of the Bride' and 'My Best Friend's Wedding.'

"If we were to wish that this chapter in our walk through life be such, and that all's well that ends well, finish to the past. Is that too much to ask?

He ends with a plea: "Grant us our happy ending. Most if not all of you had yours—on your wedding day."

The bride, whose wish is for her wedding to start with a motorcade all the way to the church, told INQUIRER Entertainment on Friday, whenever she could butt in the long monologues of Jules, that her family would be arriving from Italy to attend the wedding.

Assunta was estranged from them and her younger sister, movie actress Alessandra, when she and Jules made public their affair. Up to their civil wedding in 2002, Alessandra and the rest of the family were not on speaking terms with the couple.

Worst nightmare

She said she would be paying for her family's travel expenses. But Jules, in his lavish fashion, would entertain the family, members of whom he has never met, except for Alessandra, who, until last October, had been the couple's worst nightmare.

"I understand her," said Jules, 43, referring to Alessandra. "She's so up front, straightforward. I know how she must have felt. But now, we understand each other."

Assunta, who turned 21 last Thursday, said the De Rossi's live in Northern Italy "at the tip of the boot," according to Jules, amidst "olive groves and farm lands, nestled at the foot of a hill," said Assunta.

Jules and Assunta look forward to having two children.

"I want to have only one child, but Assunta wants two," said Jules. "As a compromise, I hope to have twins."

Their future children will be well-spaced, said Jules.

"I know my numbers. I'm a finance guy. Technically, there are only three days in a month when a woman ovulates. We're practicing birth control using the rhythm method," said Jules.

Asked if she wanted to have child soon, Assunta sighed, "How I wish."

As a mother, Assunta believes in temporal punishment. But she said she had never raised her hand on Jules' two children, who she claimed treat her like a big sister.

Jules, however, said he does not believe in hitting his children.

"I will discipline them with guilt," he said, his eyes twinkling.

The son of a shipping magnate, Jules has not asked Assunta to sign a pre-nuptial agreement.

"I don't want our love to be tainted with that," he said. "I want our marriage to be forever. A pre-nup can only mean that this union might not last."

Susan Roces and Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo are among the six pairs of sponsors of the couple, according to an aide of Jules.

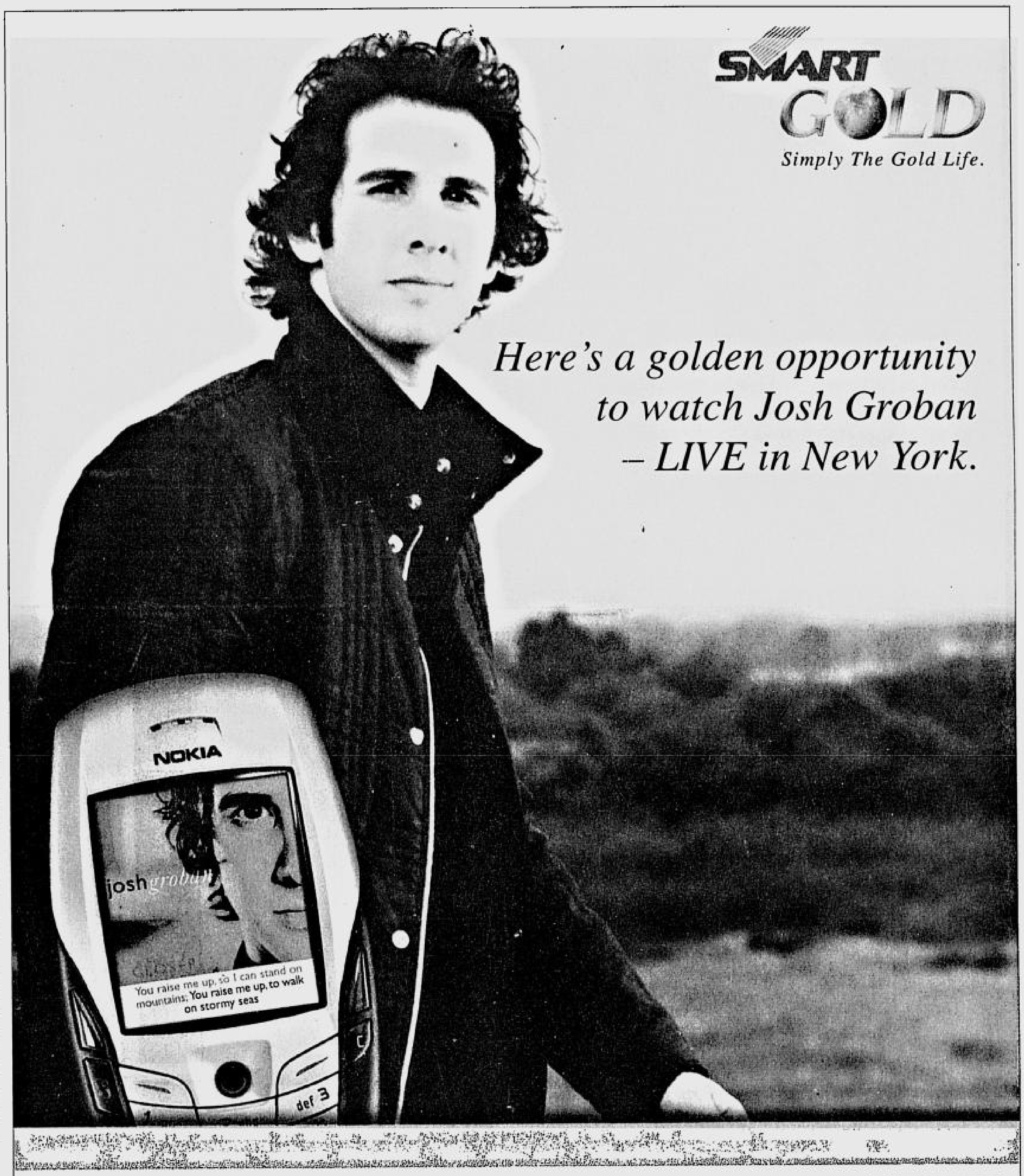
"I will also have a surprise for the guests," he said.

The sit-down, five-course dinner reception will be held at the Rizal Ballroom of the Shangri-la Hotel in Makati. The Quezon Ballroom of the hotel will be the venue of the after-dinner party.

About 2,000 guests are expected to attend the wedding, which, according to Jules, is a fitting ending to his third term in Congress.

"Why not end my stint in Congress with a bang?"

NO pre-nuptial agreement for the couple who is bent on spending forever together.
AUGUST DELA CRUZ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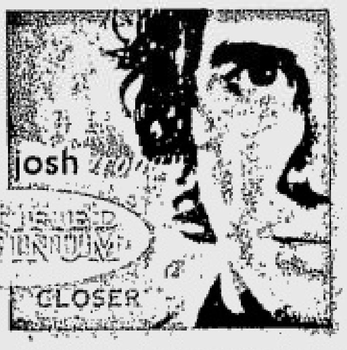

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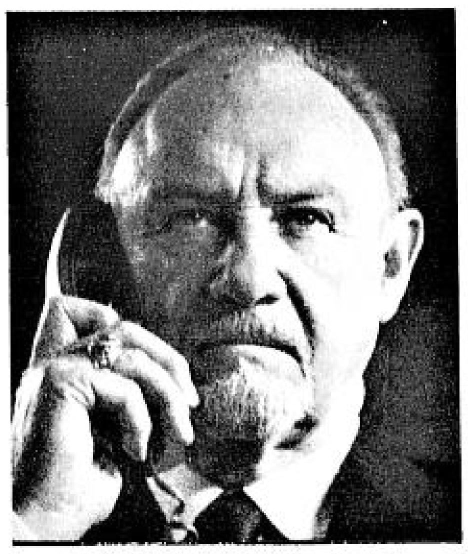
Gene Hackman brings out the sizzle in smarmy

By Ruben M. Cruz Jr.


AWARD-WINNING actor Gene Hackman in another lip-smacking loathsome turn

WHAT'S with John Grisham and Gene Hackman? Is there an unwritten rule that the cinematic adaptations of the lawyer-turned-author's books must always include the Oscar Best Actor ("The French Connection" in 1971) whenever there's a role that suits him?

Hackman has appeared in three out of the eight Grisham-based movies made so far. In "The Firm", he played Avery Tolar, the mentor assigned to break in Tom Cruise's naive and idealistic character to the life of Mob lawyering.

In "The Chamber" he was Sam Cayhall, a Ku Klux Klan member on death row who his lawyer-grandson (played by Chris O' Donnell) moved heaven and earth to save.

Master performer

Now in "Runaway Jury", the latest movie to be mined from a Grisham bestseller, Hackman portrays Rankin Fitch, a professional jury selector who uses a vast array of methods—from high-tech surveillance to psychological profiling to outright blackmail—in order to swing a jury's verdict in his client's favor.

REVIEW

Ever the master performer, Hackman brings out the sizzle in smarmy. Fitch is the man you'd love to hate. If he were a kid, there would nothing be nicer than to tie his shoelaces together or put frogs in his bed or throw banana peels before his feet. Fitch is that loathsome, and Hackman is simply lip-smacking at being loathsome.

In the movie, Fitch is hired by the chieftains of the gun industry to help win a multimillion-dollar lawsuit that could set the precedent for making them liable in shooting deaths. This is the one significant deviation from the book as the original defendants in it were the cigarette conglomerates. However, since Big Tobacco already lost landmark cases in the US, and another movie that put it on trial had already been made ("The Insider"), it was an intelligent adjustment on the part of the movie's writers—there were four of them—to choose another Machiavellian adversary that could make the good guys shine like polished silver.

Leading the Quixotic battle against the gun industry is Dustin Hoffman's Wendell Rohr, one of the few lawyers who does not allow the realities of practicing law to corrupt his sense of ethics. If Hackman can make big-time sleaze and amorality genuinely compelling, Hoffman can also do the same for idealism. The two-time Oscar Best Actor ("Kramer vs. Kramer" in 1979 and "Rain Man" in 1988) does a fine job of portraying the uncertainty of someone who believes he has the moral high ground but realizes that his reluctance to compromise his integrity could lose him his biggest case.

Hard to dislike

It's hard to dislike a movie that offers two knockout performances at its core, and Hackman and Hoffman deliver the goods for "Runaway Jury". In the only electrifying exchange between the two in the entire movie—one that's made all the more mesmerizing perhaps because it transpires in the men's room—Rohr confronts Fitch and pleads with him to have more respect for the law. This scene brings to the fore the

GENE HACKMAN/C3

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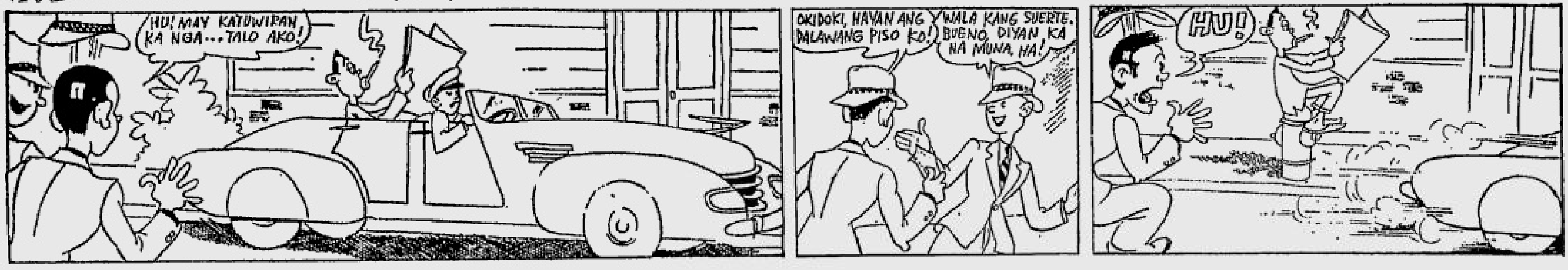
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The 'StarStruck' idols: Ages 15-19

JUICE

Jo-Ann Q. Maglipon

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Without exaggeration, they're all in this to help their families. Nearly everyone has a true-to-life drama going on, yet none of them wears this on their sleeve, and not one of them plays the deprived card.

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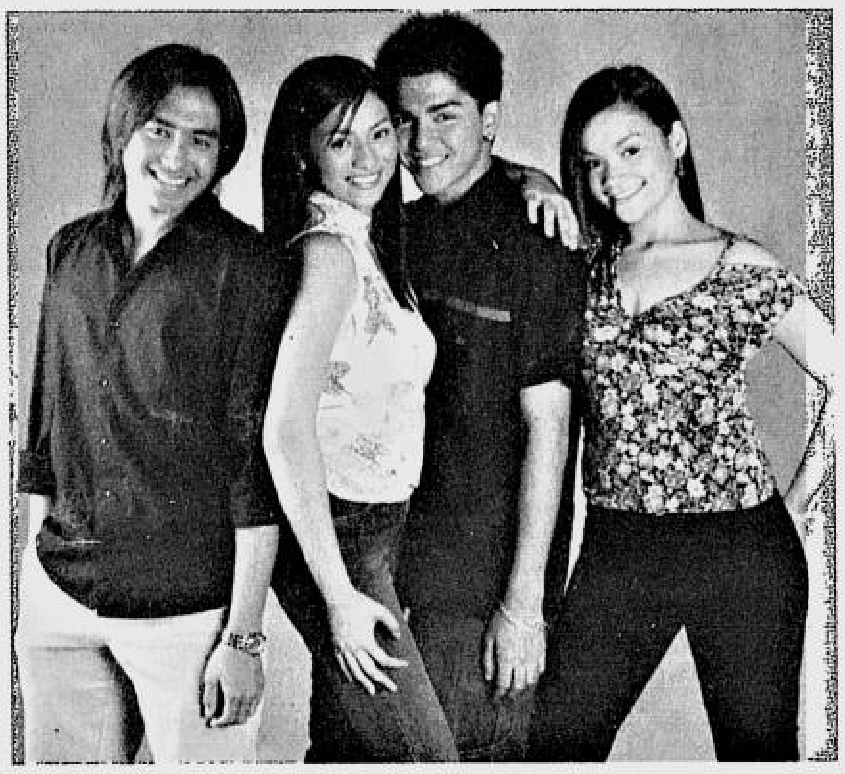

L-R: Rainier Castillo, Jennylyn Mercado, Mark Herras and Yasmien Kurdi as they appear in Yes! Extra

SARA BLACK

Emerson, our photographer, so enjoys them that he has become their Kuya Emerson, sharing their confidence and their pizza, and actually joining them on

THE 'STARSTRUCK'/ C7

Gene Hackman brings out the sizzle in smarmy

From page C2

movie's skillfully constructed morality play.

As Fitch would find out, he's not the only one pushing the jury's buttons. There's also juror No. 9, Nicholas Easter (John Cusack), and his girlfriend Marlee (Rachel Weisz), the Bonnie and Clyde of the American jurisprudence system, whose offer to sell the jury's verdict to the highest bidder throws a monkey wrench to Fitch's otherwise perfect scheme and also forces Rohr to question whether his heart is really in the right place.

Believable characters

Easter and Marlee are supposedly the main protagonists of the book as well as the movie. Although Cusack and Weisz are not really shown to great dramatic advantage here unlike the dynamic duo of Hackman and Hoffman, they both bring gravity that makes it possible to believe in their characters.

Weisz is generally a wonderful actress, with blazing good looks and serious star quality. She and Cusack—a whip-smart choice for the role of Easter—look good together. Easter is an enigma for most of the movie's running length and it helps his character that Cusack doesn't act in the showy, stagy way that stereotypically defines acting. His everyman quality not only makes Easter instantly sympathetic to audiences; it also makes his motives for spinning the jury more mysterious.

While it's undeniable that the primary strength of the movie is the level of acting, the material is also as worthwhile as any of the other Grisham books that were brought onscreen.

Logical flaws

The story has its share of logical flaws but that's standard for all but the very best of thrillers. Considering the complicated nature of jury selection (which we don't have in our legal system), I for one am willing to allow the writers more than a little improvisational freedom if it would make the book's screen adaptation more atmospheric, quirky and entertaining.

Director Gary Fleder, whose previous work includes "Kiss the Girls" and "Don't Say a Word", uses every tool at his disposal to trick, cajole and manipulate the audience into a state of heightened anxiety. He's well aware of the one inescapable truth about thrillers: to make it work, one must always put the heroes in danger. This he does to Easter and Marlee without ever insulting our intelligence.

Overall, "Runaway Jury" crisply transmits the Grisham values that sell his books. For the author's devoted readers (like myself), watching it is like having an emotionally rewarding déjà vu experience. Others I suppose would not mind the strong jolt of clever escapism.

PRETTY boy John Cusack and actress Rachel Weisz bring gravity that makes it possible to believe in their characters—Easter and Marlee, main protagonists in Grisham's book.

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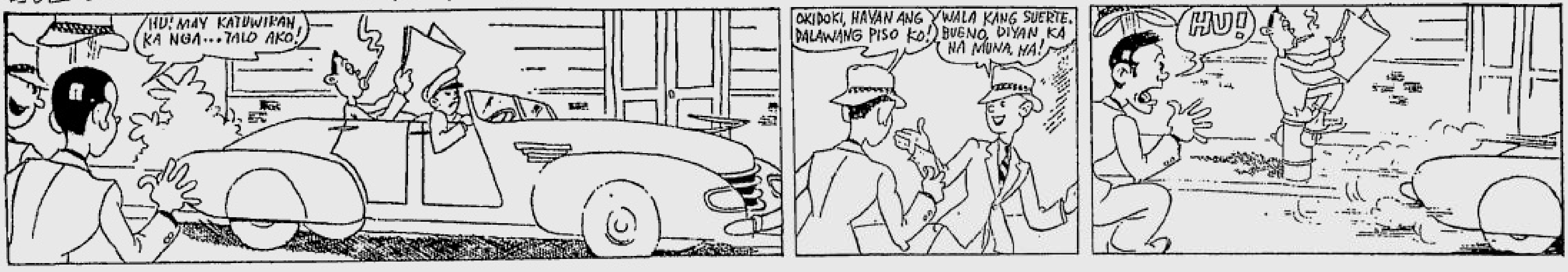
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Emerson, our photographer, so enjoys them that he has become their Kuya Emerson, sharing their confidence and their pizza, and actually joining them on

L-R: Rainier Castillo, Jennylyn Mercado, Mark Herras and Yasmien Kurdi as they appear in Yes! Extra

SARA BLACK

THE 'STARSTRUCK'/ C7

Gene Hackman brings out the sizzle in smarmy

From page C2

movie's skillfully constructed morality play.

As Fitch would find out, he's not the only one pushing the jury's buttons. There's also juror No. 9, Nicholas Easter (John Cusack), and his girlfriend Marlee (Rachel Weisz), the Bonnie and Clyde of the American jurisprudence system, whose offer to sell the jury's verdict to the highest bidder throws a monkey wrench to Fitch's otherwise perfect scheme and also forces Rohr to question whether his heart is really in the right place.

Believable characters

Easter and Marlee are supposedly the main protagonists of the book as well as the movie. Although Cusack and Weisz are not really shown to great dramatic advantage here unlike the dynamic duo of Hackman and Hoffman, they both bring gravity that makes it possible to believe in their characters.

Weisz is generally a wonderful actress, with blazing good looks and serious star quality. She and Cusack—a whip-smart choice for the role of Easter—look good together. Easter is an enigma for most of the movie's running length and it helps his character that Cusack doesn't act in the showy, stagy way that stereotypically defines acting. His everyman quality not only makes Easter instantly sympathetic to audiences; it also makes his motives for spinning the jury more mysterious.

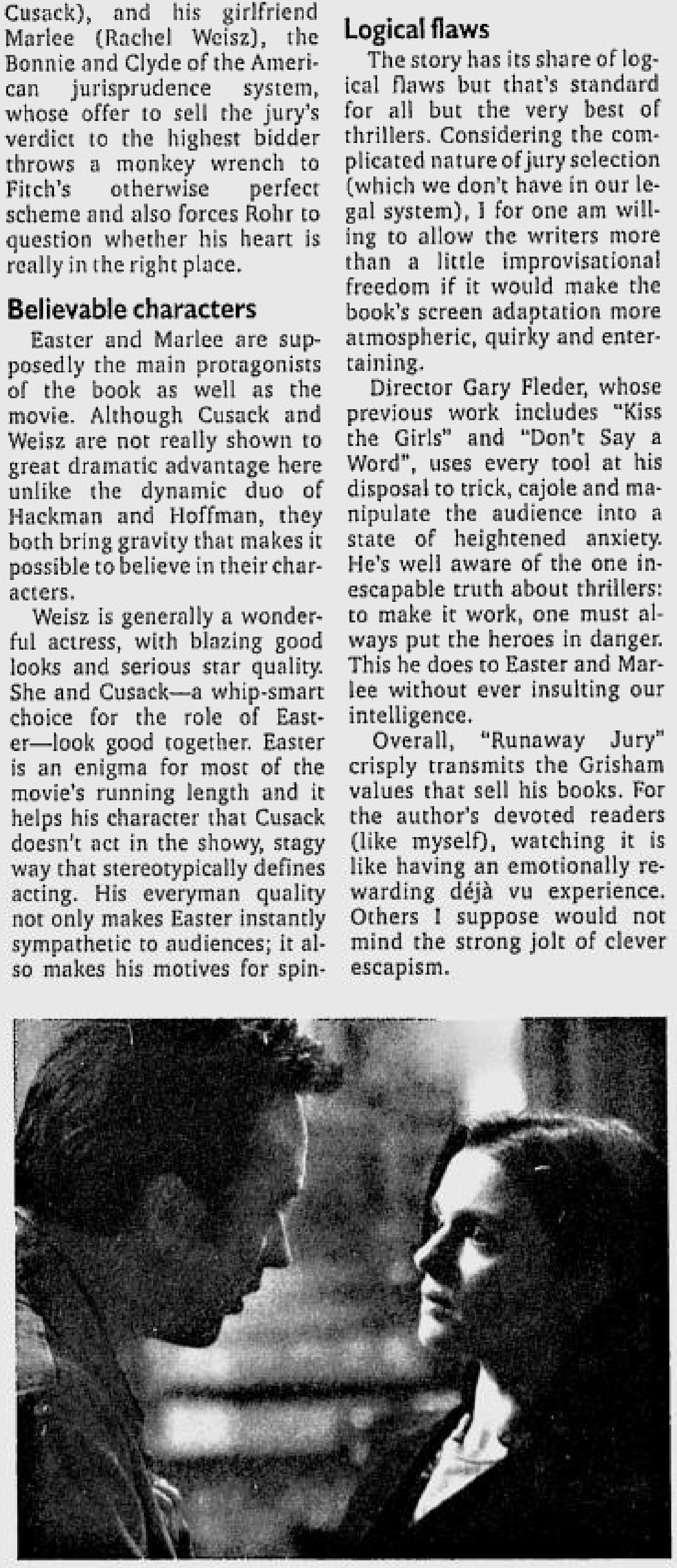
While it's undeniable that the primary strength of the movie is the level of acting, the material is also as worthwhile as any of the other Grisham books that were brought onscreen.

Logical flaws

The story has its share of logical flaws but that's standard for all but the very best of thrillers. Considering the complicated nature of jury selection (which we don't have in our legal system), I for one am willing to allow the writers more than a little improvisational freedom if it would make the book's screen adaptation more atmospheric, quirky and entertaining.

Director Gary Fleder, whose previous work includes "Kiss the Girls" and "Don't Say a Word", uses every tool at his disposal to trick, cajole and manipulate the audience into a state of heightened anxiety. He's well aware of the one inescapable truth about thrillers: to make it work, one must always put the heroes in danger. This he does to Easter and Marlee without ever insulting our intelligence.

Overall, "Runaway Jury" crisply transmits the Grisham values that sell his books. For the author's devoted readers (like myself), watching it is like having an emotionally rewarding déjà vu experience. Others I suppose would not mind the strong jolt of clever escapism.



PRETTY boy John Cusack and actress Rachel Weisz bring gravity that makes it possible to believe in their characters—Easter and Marlee, main protagonists in Grisham's book.

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1st Batch March 29 – April 2
2nd Batch April 5 – April 9
3rd Batch April 12 – April 16
4th Batch April 19 – April 23
5th Batch April 26 – April 30
6th Batch May 3 – May 7
7th Batch May 10 – May 14
8th Batch May 17 – May 21
9th Batch May 24 – May 28
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Philippine Bowling Congress, 2003 (First Runner-Up)

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Shows, songs to watch out fo

Songs from 'Crying Ladies'

BARB
in 'Cry

TWELVE masterful pieces performed by 12 extraordinary artists are in the album "Crying Ladies."

This soundtrack album is a collaboration of South Border, Barbie's Cradle, Aliya Parcs, Artstrong, Kuh Ledesma, Boom & Angel of Kulay, Parliament Syndicate, Serendipity, 604, All Star (Akafellas/Syke/Glock 9/ Raymund Marasigan) and Parokya ni Edgar.

There is no Sharon Cuneta in the album, but delivers its own take on hope, love and life that is the heart of the movie.

The "Crying Ladies" sound track album is distributed by Star Records and is on sale at record bars nationwide.

Music for everyone

THERE'S something for everyone at Dish in Rockwell Plant this March.

Mondays belong to John Y. Cash (John Lesaca and Cash Manalang) and their retro music.

The nostalgia continues on Tuesdays with Rockin' Revival.

On Wednesdays, R&B rules as MYMP (Make Your Mama Proud) take center stage.

The acoustic trio Adjundie performs Thursdays, while Pido with Jen plays soft rock classics and contemporary ballads on Fridays.

On March 5, South Border takes over, Human Race on March 12 and Overdrive on March 19.

Saturdays bring Rap-Hip Hop acts, 7 Shots and K24/7.

On March 6, Overdrive and Real Groove perform hits of the '80s.

Dish also serves up an international cuisine for lunch, dinner and late night supper from four in-house fine dining outlets.

CIARA SOTTO

Ciara tours malls

CLASSICAL pop singer Ciara Sotto's mall tour to promote her self-titled album under BMG Records Pilipinas Inc. kicked off yesterday at SM Sucat.

Presented by GSM Blue, the tour continues at SM Fairview on March 7, SM North Edsa on March 12. SM Bacoor on March 13, Robinson's Metro East on March 14 and Robinson's Novaliches on March 20.

All shows start at 4 p.m.

"Ciara," the album is a 10-track outing featuring the carrier single, "Ibabalik," a love song by DJ Raymund Ryan. Other choice cuts are "Adagio," originally by Lara Fabian, a remake of Joe Cocker's "A Whiter Shade of Pale," "A Lover's Concierto," Ciara's version of Josh Groban's "Home to Stay," "Di Inaasahan," by singer-comedian Janno Gibbs, "May Mararating," an adaptation of an Italian song by composer Ernie de la Peña, among other songs.

The album is now available in CDs and cassettes at leading record bars nationwide.

MYMP'S Ch
and Juris

Light nights

THE WINSTON Right Light Nights concert series has brought the country's leading bands to Cebu, Iloilo, Cagayan de Oro, Baguio and all over Metro Manila during the weekends of January and February.

On its third month, the concert series has 100 dates all over the country.

Last Friday, the concert was at Hard Rock Café in Makati, and featured the Soulid Band as mainliner, while Barbie's Cradle performed at Ratsky-Malate last Friday.

The concert series is sponsored by Lone Star Beer and Air Philippines.

MTV Best Artist

AFTER the release of his follow up album entitled "Go Your Own Way," pop idol Gareth Gates shocked viewers by being named the Best Male Artist at the MTV Asia Awards held in Singapore. Battling international superstars Justin Timberlake, Ricky Martin and Robbie Williams, Gates charmed his way into the hearts of Asian fans to win this most coveted award.

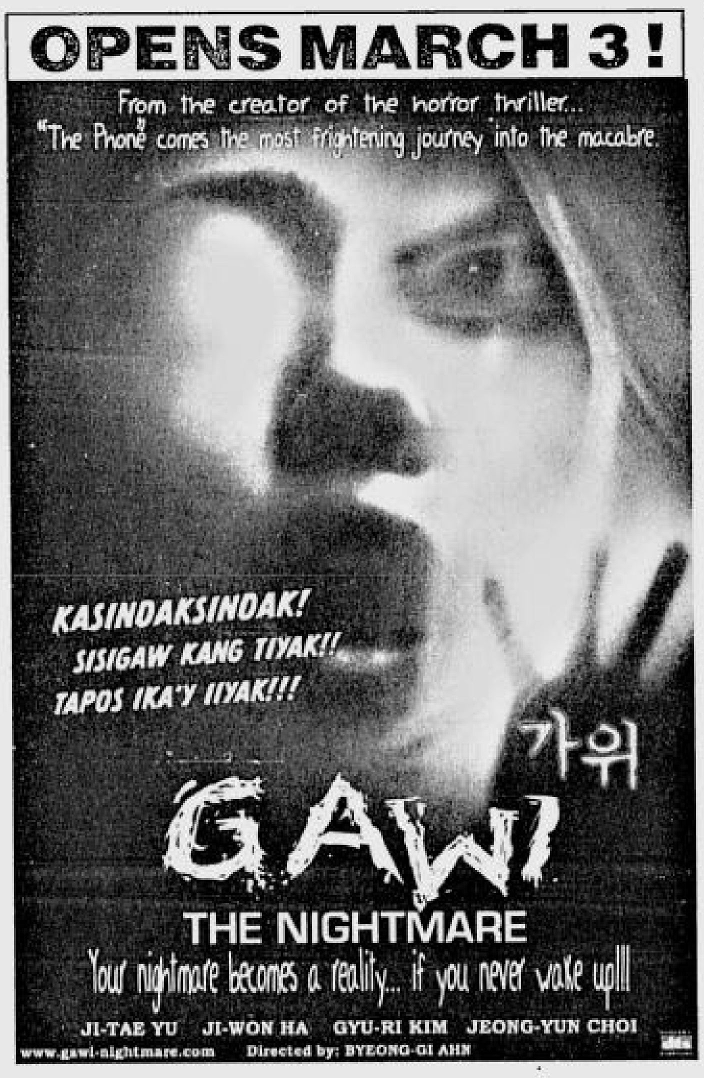
AYALA CINEMAS
NOW SHOWING EXCLUSIVELY AT ArtFilm
DARING, AWARD-WINNING, EXTRAORDINARY
A NEW HOME. A NEW LIFE
SEEN THROUGH EYES THAT SEE EVERYTHING
From master storyteller Jim Sheridan ("My Left Foot," "In The Name of the Father") comes a deeply personal and emotionally raw tale of a family finding its soul *IN AMERICA*. Through the wide-open eyes of two young heroines, Sheridan transforms a devastating human tragedy into a riveting, humor-tinged story about memory, secrets, love, loss, coming together and starting over
3 ACADEMY AWARD NOMINATIONS
BEST ACTRESS
Samantha Morton
BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR
Djimon Hounsou
BEST SCREENPLAY
Jim Sheridan, Naomi Sheridan & Kirsten Sheridan
IN AMERICA
MTRCB Rating: Restricted 13 (R-13)
STAR INQUIRER

OPENS MARCH 10 EXCLUSIVELY AT
GLORIETTA 4 CINEMAS
AYALA CINEMAS
COLUMBIA PICTURES
Tommy Lee Jones Cate Blanchett
THE MISSING
How far would you go, how much would you sacrifice to get back what you have lost?
From Ron Howard and Brian Grazer, the Oscar-winning director-producer team of A BEAUTIFUL MIND comes THE MISSING, an action-filled suspense thriller and a powerful drama of love, forgiveness and redemption.
"Powerful and provocative, The Missing is another masterful production from one of the industry's best directors and two of its best actors."
– Paul Clinton, CNN
MTRCB Rating: Restricted 13 (R-13)

SECOND WEEK!
MTRCB RATING ▸R-18
Strictly For Adults Only
No one below 18 years old may be admitted.
7 ACADEMY AWARD NOMINATIONS
13 BRITISH ACADEMY FILM AWARD NOMINATIONS INCLUDING BEST PICTURE OF THE YEAR
And the film David Denby of The New Yorker calls
"STUNNING ENTERTAINMENT!"
JUDE LAW NICOLE KIDMAN RENÉE ZELLWEGER
COLD MOUNTAIN
MIRAMAX
Distributed by Buena Vista International thru Columbia Pictures

NOW SHOWING
MTRCB PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult
MANDY MOORE
MATTHEW GOODE
How do you fall in love with the whole world watching?
CHASING★LIBERTY

NOW SHOWING
ONE OF THE MOST AWARDED FILMS OF THE YEAR.
4 ACADEMY AWARD NOMINATIONS
BEST PICTURE
BEST DIRECTOR
BEST SCREENPLAY
BEST ACTOR
8 BRITISH ACADEMY OF FILM AND TELEVISION ARTS AWARD NOMINATIONS
WINNER
BEST ACTOR BEST ACTRESS BEST EDITING
WINNER
BEST PICTURE
Best Actor Best Screenplay
2004 Golden Globes
WINNER Film of the Year 2003 National Board of Review
WINNER Best Actor Best Original Screenplay 2003 Online Film Critics Society
WINNER Best Director, Best Actor 2003 New York Film Critics Circle
WINNER BEST PICTURE BEST ACTOR 2003 San Francisco Film Critics Circle
WINNER Best Actor 2003 Los Angeles Film Critics Association
WINNER Best Director Best Actor Best Actress 2003 Boston Society of Film Critics
WINNER Best Film Best Screenplay Best Actor 2003 Toronto Film Critics Association
WINNER Best Actor 2003 National Society of Film Critics
WINNER Best Picture Best Director Best Actor Best Support Actress 2003 NY Film Critics Online
Everyone wants to be found.
A film by Sofia Coppola
Scarlett Johansson
Bill Murray
Lost In Translation



OPENS MARCH 3!
From the creator of the horror thriller...
"The Phone" comes the most frightening journey into the macabre.
KASINDAKSINDAK!
SISIGAW KANG TIYAK!!
TAPOS IKA'Y IIYAK!!!
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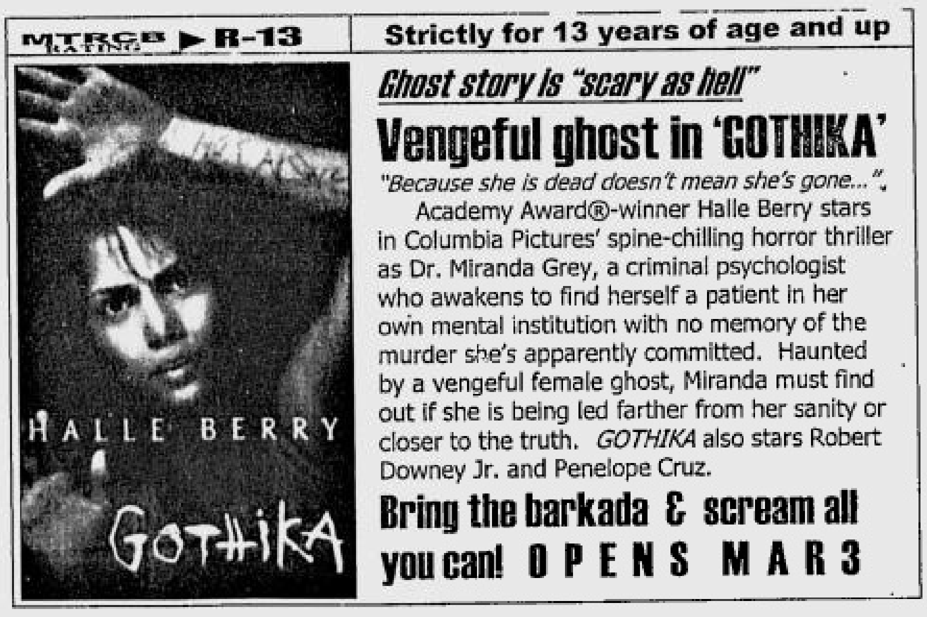
GAWI
THE NIGHTMARE
Your nightmare becomes a reality... if you never wake up!!
JI-TAE YU JI-WON HA GYU-RI KIM JEONG-YUN CHOI
www.gawi-nightmare.com Directed by: BYEONG-GI AHN



MTRCB RATING ▸R-13 Strictly for 13 years of age and up
HALLE BERRY
GOTHIKA
Ghost story is "scary as hell"
Vengeful ghost in 'GOTHIKA'
"Because she is dead doesn't mean she's gone...".
Academy Award®-winner Halle Berry stars in Columbia Pictures' spine-chilling horror thriller as Dr. Miranda Grey, a criminal psychologist who awakens to find herself a patient in her own mental institution with no memory of the murder she's apparently committed. Haunted by a vengeful female ghost, Miranda must find out if she is being led farther from her sanity or closer to the truth. *GOTHIKA* also stars Robert Downey Jr. and Penelope Cruz.
Bring the barkada & scream all you can! OPENS MAR 3

MTRCB RATING ▸PG-13 "DESERT TERROR" EXPLODES NOW!
SAGAD SA BUTO... MABABALATAN KA SA TAKOT!
THE BONE SNATCHER
Solar FILMS INC.

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r in March

E'S Cradle delivers its own take on hope, love and life
ing Ladies' the album.

Gates performed at a special Valentine show for his fans in Singapore a day before the MTV Asia Awards. At that time, he did not know that he would be named favorite male artist of 2004.

He has chalked up several hits up his sleeve, a year after he was named runner-up in the UK Pop Idol competition.

Gates' first album contains the hit songs "Anyone of Us" and "Say It Isn't So," which he performed with Malaysian superstar, Siti Nurhaliza, during the MTV Awards night in Singapore.

His album "Go Your Own Way," under BMG Records (Pilipinas) Inc., is now available in CDs and cassettes at record bars nationwide

Beatles reprised

"YESTERDAY," "Till There Was You," "Hey Jude," "I Saw Her Standing There," "Can't Buy Me Love," "Imagine," "Long and Winding Road," "Here Comes The Sun" are just some of the Beatles songs that Nyoy Volante and Mannos will give their own take in the concert series "NV & M Salute The Beatles."

n (left)

The concert runs at the Republic of Malate on March 11 and 25, April 1, 2,3, 22 and 23 and May 6, 13 and 20.

Tickets at P600 and P400. For inquiries and reservations, call 533-8153, 718-0945 or 0917-934-0526, Music Museum at 721-6726 or 721-0635, Republic of Malate at 551-7252 to 55, Tridel Technologies at 636-8050, at 813-2659 or 813-2660 and look for Helen, East Avenue Medical Center Department of Dermatology at 924-8877, 727-6717 or 0917-566-4735 for Crisel, at 0917-566-2955 for Zeus, and at 0927-361-5924 for Rommel.

Cadio at Friends

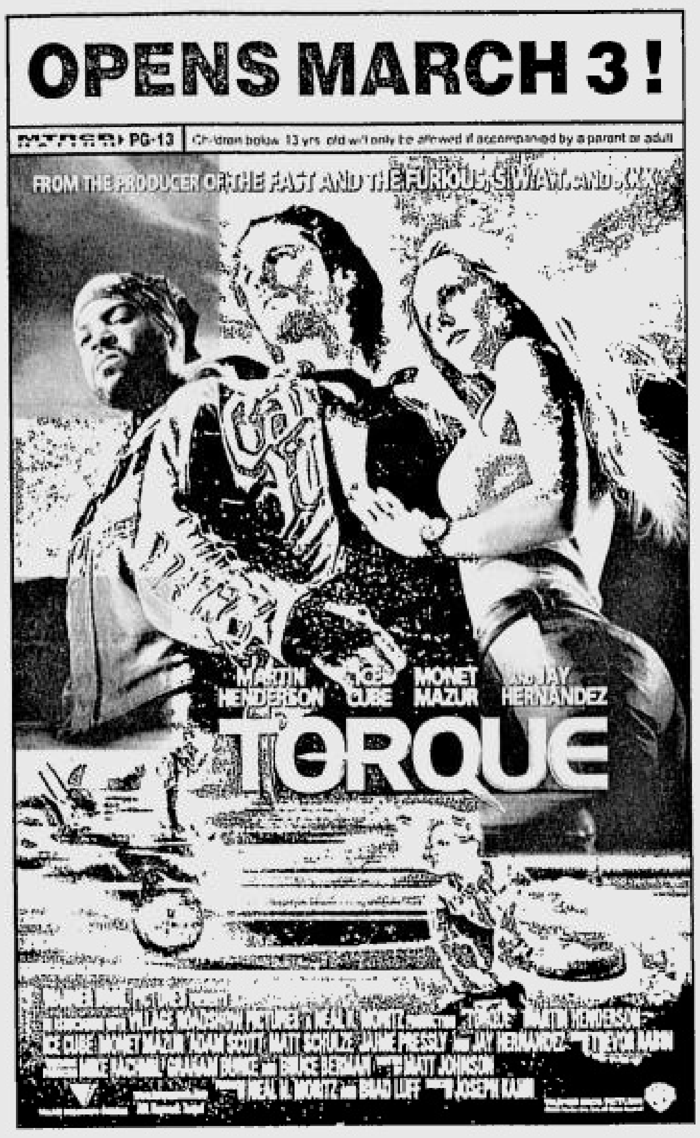
CADIO performs at Friends at the Square at 8 p.m. on all Thursdays of March. Accompanied by three instrumentalists, Cadio will render pop classics in jazz and swing arrangements. Friends at the Square is located at St. Francis Square, Ortigas Center.

Mystica in Baguio

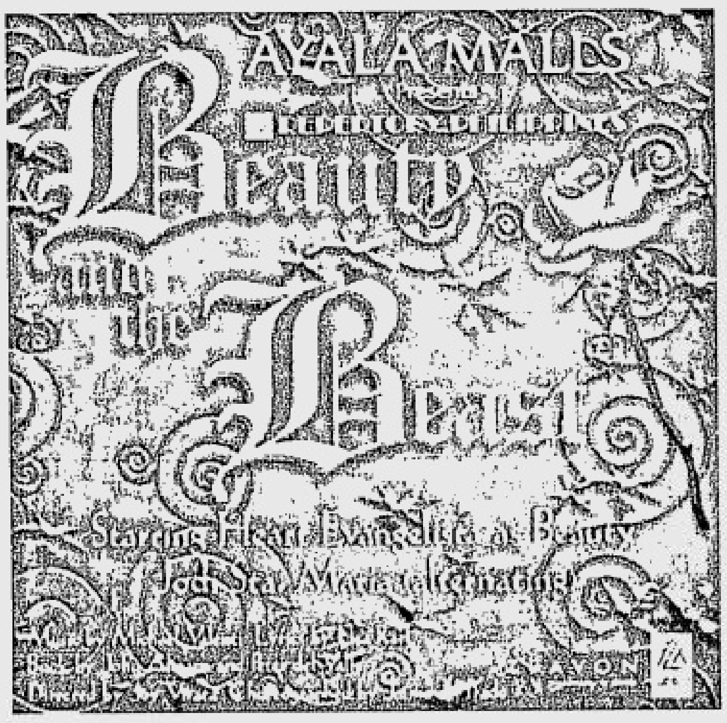
SINGER Mystica, who "split" her way to stardom, will bring her performance to SM Baguio City tomorrow.

Billed as "Rampa Mystica," the show is Mystica's way of thanking her fans. It will be sponsored by Renew Placenta Skin whitening and anti-aging skin care products, Livermin Soft Capsule, Olive C milk soap and Jec'sco Korean Red Ginseng.

Last year, "Rampa Mystica" was held in Cebu City and in Cagayan de Oro. Last November, Mystica toured major markets in Metro Manila



OPENS MARCH 3!
MTRCB RATING PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult
FROM THE PRODUCER OF THE FAST AND THE FURIOUS, S.W.A.T. AND XXX
MARTIN HENDERSON
ICE CUBE
MONET MAZUR
AND JAY HERNANDEZ
TORQUE



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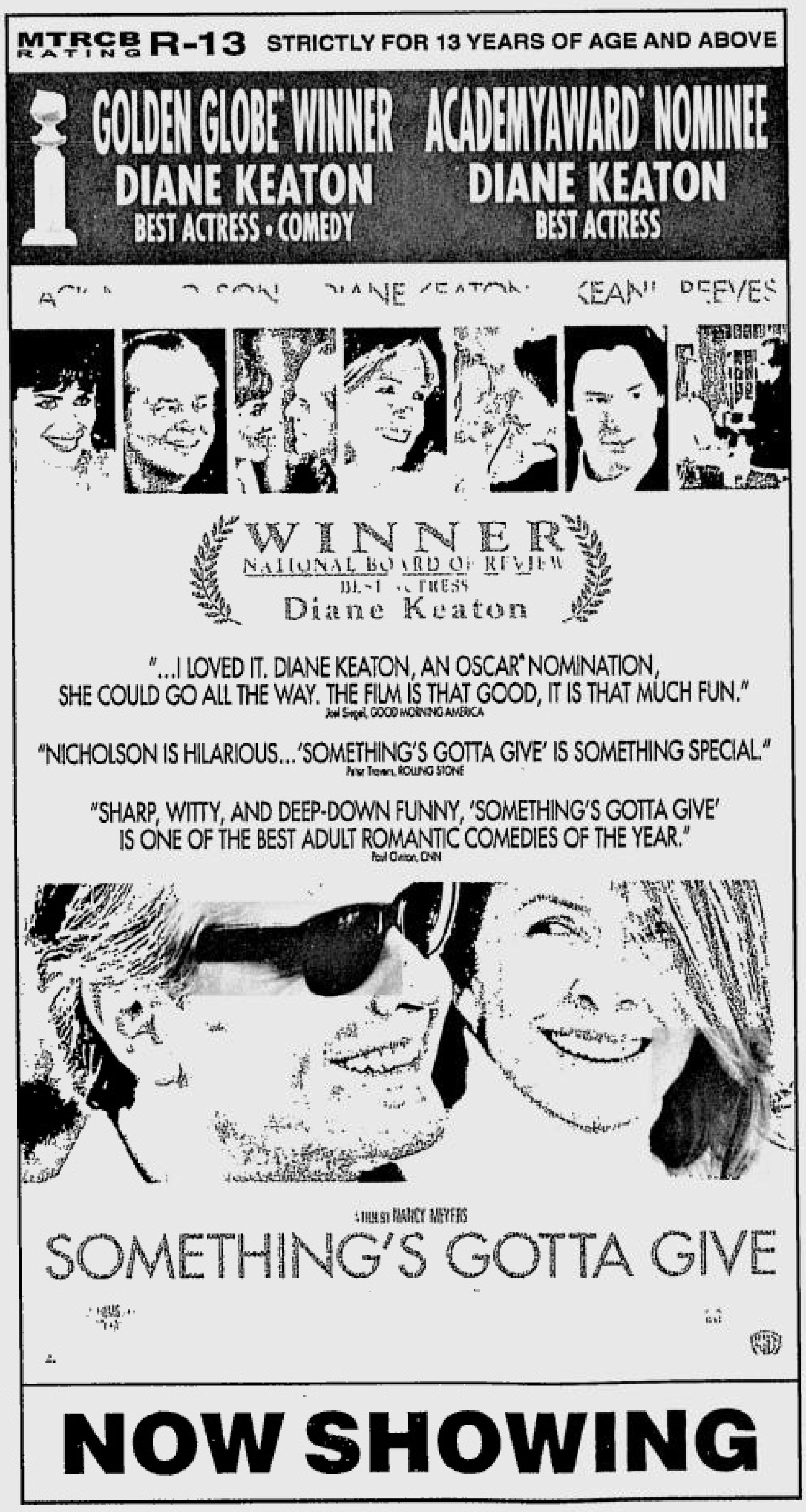
Beauty and the Beast
Starring Hiraŋ Evangelista as Beauty
AYALA CENTER
Feb. 20 - 5pm, 7pm
Feb 21 - 11am, 3pm, 5pm, 7pm
Feb 22 - 11am, 3pm, 5pm
ALABANG TOWN
Feb 27 - 11am, 3pm, 6pm
Feb. 28 - 11am, 3pm, 6pm
Feb 29 - 11am, 3pm, 6pm
AYALA CENTER CEBU
Mar. 5 - 4pm, 7:30pm
Mar. 6 - 11am, 3pm, 5pm, 7pm
Mar. 7 - 11:30am, 3pm, 6:30pm



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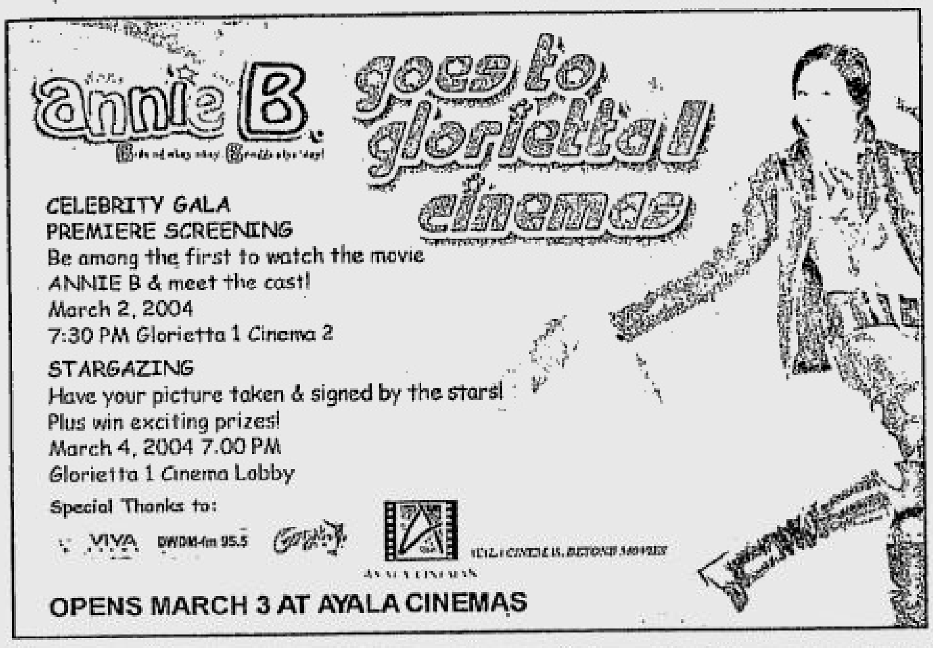
GOLDEN GLOBE® WINNER
DIANE KEATON
BEST ACTRESS • COMEDY
ACADEMY AWARD® NOMINEE
DIANE KEATON
BEST ACTRESS
DIANE KEATON
KEANU REEVES
WINNER
NATIONAL BOARD OF REVIEW
BEST ACTRESS
Diane Keaton
"...I LOVED IT. DIANE KEATON, AN OSCAR® NOMINATION, SHE COULD GO ALL THE WAY. THE FILM IS THAT GOOD, IT IS THAT MUCH FUN."
Joel Siegel, GOOD MORNING AMERICA
"NICHOLSON IS HILARIOUS... 'SOMETHING'S GOTTA GIVE' IS SOMETHING SPECIAL."
Peter Travers, ROLLING STONE
"SHARP, WITTY, AND DEEP-DOWN FUNNY, 'SOMETHING'S GOTTA GIVE' IS ONE OF THE BEST ADULT ROMANTIC COMEDIES OF THE YEAR."
Paul Clinton, CNN
A FILM BY NANCY MEYERS
SOMETHING'S GOTTA GIVE
NOW SHOWING



annie B.
goes to glorietta cinemas
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Be among the first to watch the movie
ANNIE B & meet the cast!
March 2, 2004
7:30 PM Glorietta 1 Cinema 2
STARGAZING
Have your picture taken & signed by the stars!
Plus win exciting prizes!
March 4, 2004 7.00 PM
Glorietta 1 Cinema Lobby
Special Thanks to:
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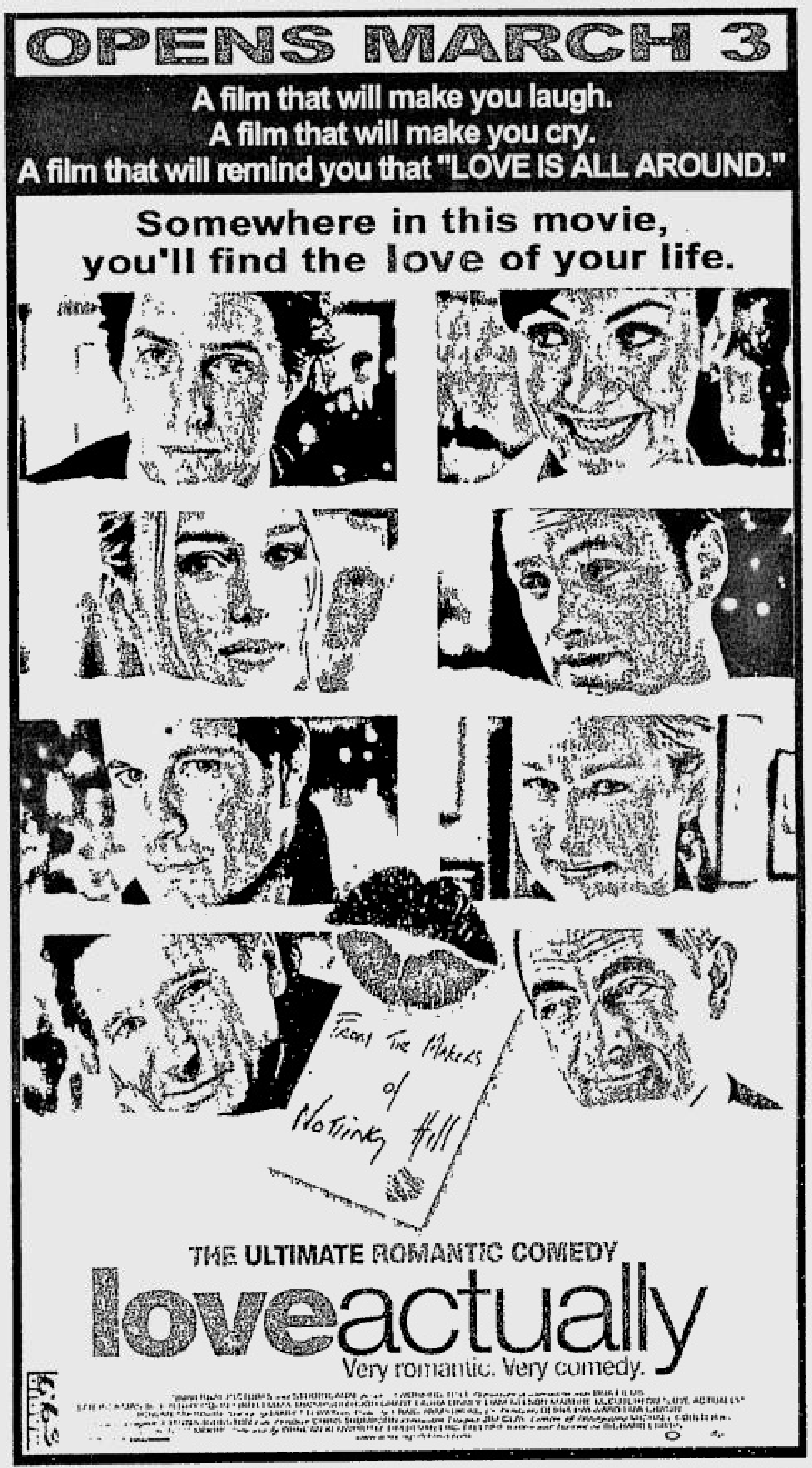
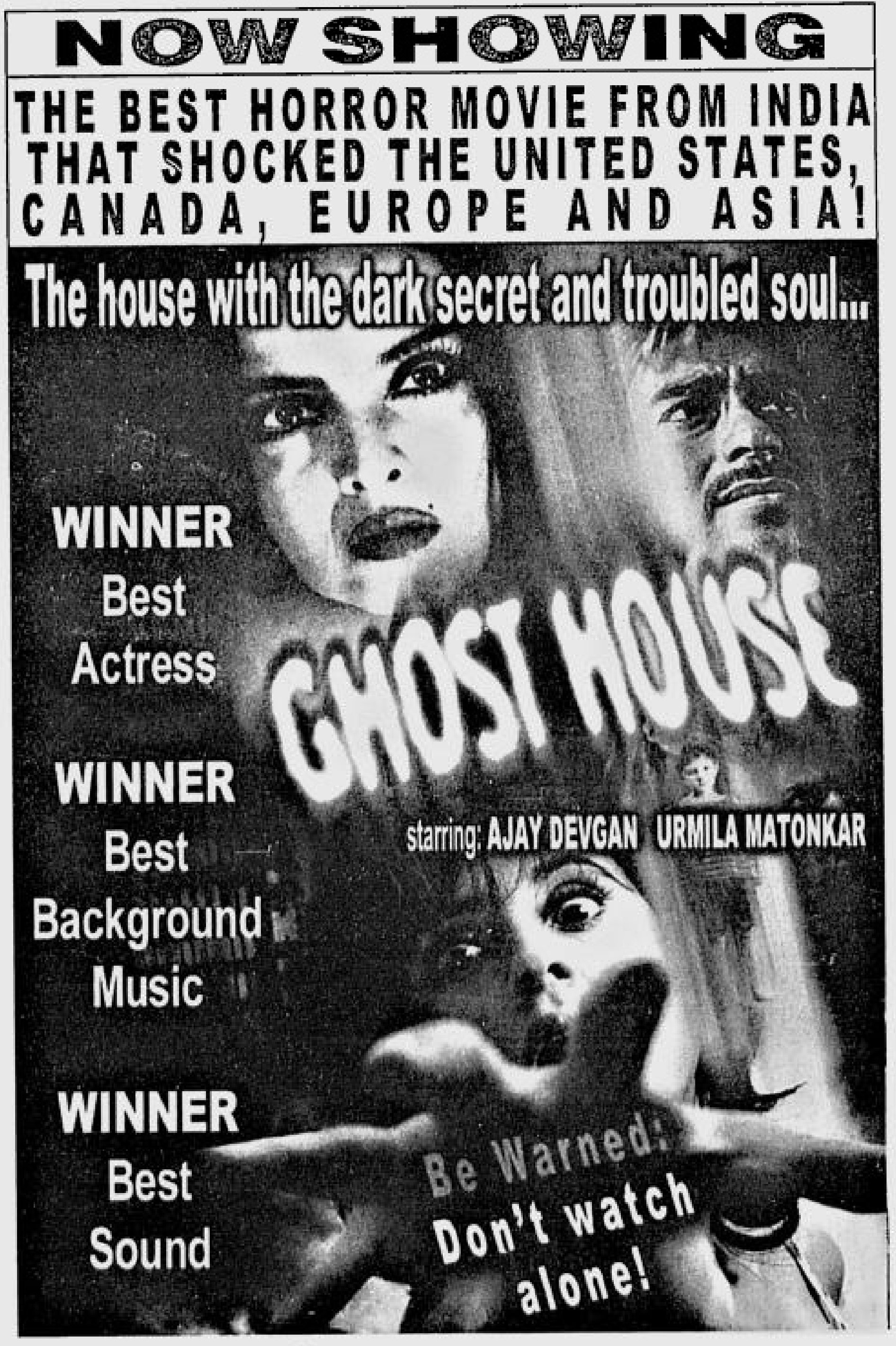
OPENS MARCH 3 AT AYALA CINEMAS



OPENS MARCH 3
A film that will make you laugh.
A film that will make you cry.
A film that will remind you that "LOVE IS ALL AROUND."
Somewhere in this movie, you'll find the love of your life.
From The Makers of Notting Hill
THE ULTIMATE ROMANTIC COMEDY
loveactually
Very romantic. Very comedy.



NOW SHOWING
THE BEST HORROR MOVIE FROM INDIA THAT SHOCKED THE UNITED STATES, CANADA, EUROPE AND ASIA!
The house with the dark secret and troubled soul...
WINNER
Best Actress
WINNER
Best Background Music
WINNER
Best Sound
GHOST HOUSE
starring: AJAY DEVGAN URMILA MATONKAR
Be Warned! Don't watch alone!

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'Passion' rings up $23.6M on opening day

LOS ANGELES—Mel Gibson's "The Passion of the Christ" took in $23.6 million in the United States and Canada on opening day, positioning it as the biggest religious-themed movie since "The Ten Commandments" and "Ben-Hur."

The film also took in an estimated $3 million in private screenings for church groups last Monday and Tuesday in advance of the official Wednesday opening.

The $26.6 million US and Canada total released Thursday was well above distributor Newmarket Film's preliminary estimate of $15 million to $20 million a day earlier.

"We wanted to be a little strategically conservative," said Rob Schwartz, head of distribution for Newmarket, which Gibson hired after no Hollywood studio would handle the film because of its divisive subject matter. "Prior to the opening, I don't think we could have counted on a $26 (million) to $27 million opening, but we'll take it."

The movie is well on its way to the $100 million mark, Schwartz said. The 1959 Roman-Christian epic "Ben-Hur" grossed an estimated $74 million, while 1956's "The Ten Commandments" took in about $65.5 million, according to box-office tracker Exhibitor Relations.

In today's dollars, "Ben-Hur" and "The Ten Commandments" likely would be $300 million blockbusters.

The 1998 animated tale of Moses "The Prince of Egypt" took in $14.5 million over its first three days on its way to a $101.3 million total. Based on its opening-day numbers, "The Passion" should easily surpass that.

"The Passion" fell far short of the single-day record of $43.6 million held by "Spider-Man," but it did rank as the fifth-best Wednesday debut ever, behind "The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King" ($34.5 million), "Star Wars: Episode I — The Phantom Menace" ($28.5 million), "The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers" ($26.2 million) and "The Matrix Revolutions" ($24.3 million).

Gibson's film already has passed the receipts of other modern religious films over their entire runs, among them "The Last Temptation of Christ" ($8.4 million), "The Omega Code" ($12.5 million) and "Jonah: A VeggieTales Movie" ($25.6 million).

The film, starring Jim Caviezel as Jesus, is a bloody depiction of Christ's final hours and crucifixion.

The movie's box-office prospects benefited from months of debate as Gibson built support by screening it for church groups and excluding potential critics, while some Christian and Jewish leaders complained that it could fuel anti-Semitism by implying Jews were collectively responsible for Christ's death.

Early on, "The Passion" looked like it might follow the pattern of other Christian movies, playing to a small core audience. The furor over the film, along with Gibson's outreach efforts to Christians, created the sort of audience frenzy usually reserved for big summer action franchises.

Gibson put up the film's $25 million budget out of his own pocket. After theater owners take their cut, about half of the box office take will come back to Gibson, who then pays Newmarket a percentage fee for distribution.

AP

THE MOVIE's box-office prospects benefited from months of debate as Gibson built support by screening it for church group.

MTRCB RATING ▶ R-13 STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS OF AGE AND ABOVE
OPENS MARCH 3
HANEP SA ACTION... WALANG CAMERA TRICKS.
LABANAN NG MGA MATATAPANG... KAKASA KA BA?
From YUEN WO-PING
the action director of THE MATRIX.
SHAOLIN KUNG FU ORIGINATED IN 3RD CENTURY CHINA. ★ NINJITSU ORIGINATED IN 9TH CENTURY JAPAN.
WHICH TECHNIQUE IS THE BEST?
CHINA'S NATIONAL WU-SHU CHAMPION SHI-XIAO-LONG
TIME JAPAN NINJITSU CHAMPION KEN WONG
DRAGON VERSUS NINJA

More than just a giddy teen flick

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

AT FIRST glance, **Dominic Zapata**'s "Kuya" comes off as "only" a giddy teen flick for ga-ga fans of TV youth drama stars like **Richard Gutierrez** and **Chynna Hortaleza.**

Soon after it starts telling its story, however, the movie acquires heft and texture, and becomes a significant and occasionally compelling viewing experience.

Some viewers complain that the film's young characters lead such empty, pointless and blighted lives that the production doesn't go "anywhere." Yes, the young protagonists and antagonists' lives are empty, but they aren't pointless—or, rather, their very pointlessness is one of the movie's points.

This is a downbeat view of young lives that could turn off and even frighten some adult viewers—and well it should! But, is this the reality of at least some Filipino teens now?

A number of people who work with the young say it is. So, the story is real, and deserves to be told, no matter how traditionally "pointless" and confounding it is.

"Kuya" focuses on a *barkada* of high school seniors who live only for the moment, have a troubled, rootless past and a dismally murky and abridged future.

Since most of their parents are absent or irresponsible, the *kuyas* have only each other—and their girlfriends, who they grudgingly allow entry into the periphery of their all-important group.

Like other teen movies, this production puts the blame for most of its young protagonists' problems on their irresponsible or overly-strict parents. This automatic finger-pointing ingratiates the movie to its target audience of young viewers, but is dramatically unproductive and escapist, and becomes one of the production's major limitations.

But "Kuya" compensates with its savvy but occasionally shocking view of teen life and libido.

First-time feature film director Zapata adroitly balances "for the fans" *kilig* treatment with darker, deeper touches that show not all teen tales are mindless, giddy romps with sure-fire Happy Endings.

In fact, the final fade on "Kuya" is uncompromisingly bleak and tragic.

Technicals are spotty, and so are some performances. But **Oyo Boy Sotto** stands out with his precociously world-weary portrayal. **Danilo Barrios** is another plus for the production, but **Aubrey Miles** looks too mature to be credible as a teen groupie.

But its performances aren't really what "Kuya" is all about.

Its story, theme, conflict and occasionally docu-drama feel rank higher in significance, because they go beyond the shallow intentions of most teen flicks.

They warn us that some young people's lives are coolly in crisis, and unless we heed the danger signs and do something about them, our young people's collective future is bleak.

Tetchie on 'Basta't Kasama Kita'

WE haven't watched "Basta't Kasama Kita" in quite a spell, so we were pleasantly surprised when we viewed the "action soap" series starring **Judy Ann Santos** and **Robin Padilla** last Wednesday, and caught a scene involving **Tetchie Agbayani.**

The last time we'd seen Tetchie, she was on the plump side, but on TV last Wednesday, she looked really sleek, chic and sexy. How great to see that the acclaimed actress, is in top "fighting form" again!

Let's hope Tetchie has the time to do more roles on TV, and perhaps a movie or stage play now and then, because our small screens and theaters sure could use more of her well-honed acting prowess.

Stella Ruiz sings

SEXY actress turned acoustic singer **Stella Ruiz** performs at Oyster Bar Rockwell on March 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31; on March 19 at Alegria Lounge, and on March 5, 12 and 26 at Tiara Hotel in Makati.

'Sanjuro'

EIGA Sai 2004 opens with a special screening of Akira Kurosawa's "Sanjuro" at 7 p.m. on March 2, at the UP Film Institute, UP Diliman, QC. Call 811-6155.

SM CINEMA
red carpet premiere
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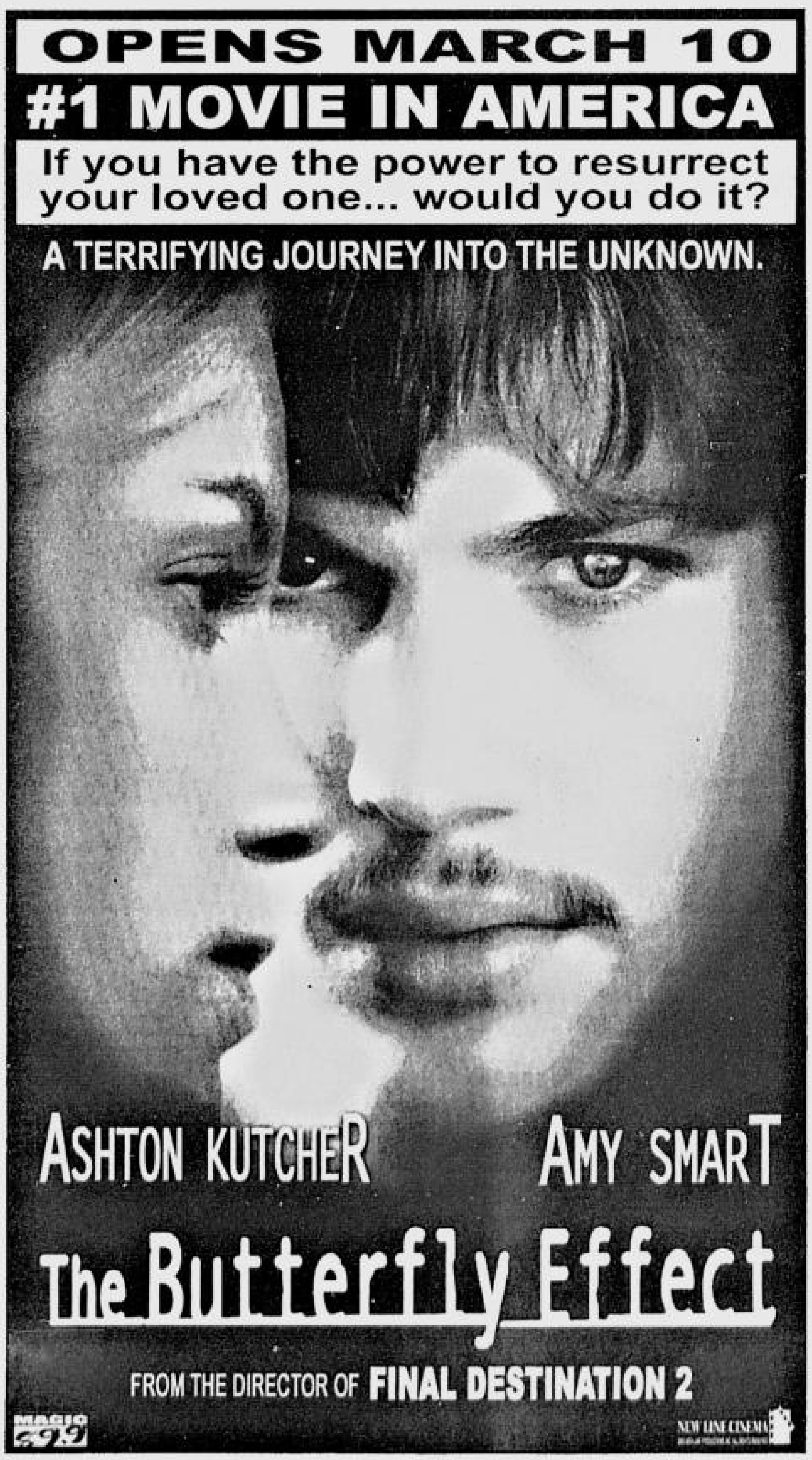

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A truism-heavy . . .

From page C7

months, eventually reconciling with her ex, who was killed almost immediately. Willow snaps, relapsing and transforming into a furious uber-villain.

Spike's obsession with Buffy led to the Slayer's using him for her, um, convenience. But his brain chip doesn't work on her anymore. When she broke up with him, Spike almost assaults her when she resisted his advances.

3) Death creeps in when least expected

It was shocking to see Buffy's mother bite the dust, and even more surprising to learn that she didn't die of supernatural causes. Tara's death was controversial as it sparked outcries from gay fans citing an old Hollywood cinema cliché (lesbians + sex = death and insanity).

When Buffy herself died, every follower was in mourning mode between seasons five and six, but eagerly waited for her eventual resurrection. That's how beloved and alive these characters have become. Word's out that some Scoobies will buy the farm in the final episode (sniff!). But in the Whedon-verse, like in certain beliefs in our reality, death is only the beginning.

2) Love bites and how!

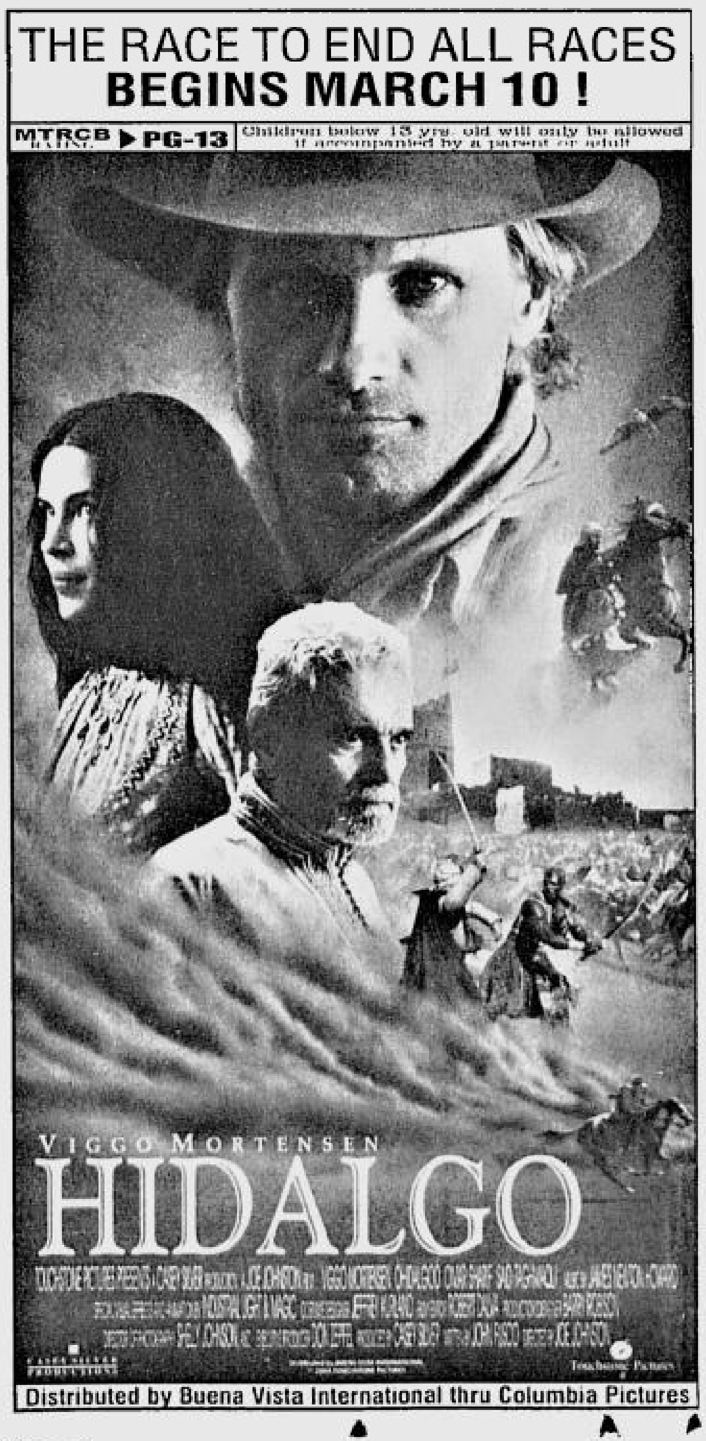
Happy endings are rare when it comes to Sunnydale couples. Buffy and Angel can't be together due to a curse; Riley left Buffy because he felt inadequate; and Buffy left Spike because she doesn't love him. Every time someone's this close to happiness, heartbreak rears its ugly head.

Xander left Anya at the altar because he's afraid of repeating the mistakes of his bitter parents. The crushed Anya chooses to become a demon again, and finds fleeting solace with the jilted Spike. Ah, everybody hurts. Must be a Sunnydale thing.

1) Heroes do what they must

Buffy tries to balance her time between earning a meager salary, raising her rebellious sister alone, and vanquishing hordes of the undead. Her selflessness knows no bounds, fortified by years of tragedy, love and a sense of humor (a very handy survival device).

She's woman-power personified, inspiring the presence of more young, butt-kicking females in the TV landscape. We still have less than twenty episodes to go, but she and her show are already missed. For an hour every week, the Slayer gave much-needed life to primetime television. And that's a daunting task, indeed.



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A truism-heavy era ends with 'Buffy the Vampire Slayer'

Ten things we learned from the landmark show

By Oliver M. Pulumbarit
Contributor

IT'S the end of an era once again for quality television.

One of the most intelligent and endearing shows on TV, "Buffy the Vampire Slayer", aired its final episode in the US last May. The beloved fantasy drama has accumulated some of the most devout, most rabid fans worldwide throughout its seven years of inspired storytelling; unquestioning disciples to creator Joss Whedon's (and his trusted writer crew's) mind-bending tales of heroism and growing up.

Smart, funny, angsty and sexy—it spearheaded a slew of copycat shows like the utterly formulaic "Smallville" and the short-lived "Dark Angel", among many others. We Filipinos are currently seeing new episodes of that final seventh season over Studio 23 (although some of us may have helped ourselves to spoilers already), and it's the perfect time to catch it before it becomes the stuff of TV legend. Its spin off series "Angel" is also facing cancellation, leaving us with two more seasons of the good vampire's tales that have yet to be shown here.

Some good things never last, but "Buffy" yielded tons of growing-up and other life truisms since day one that pretty much appealed to everyone. Top Ten drum roll, please...

10) School is hell

Every villain that Buffy (Sarah Michelle Gellar) faces is a metaphorical manifestation of her (or her friends') anxieties. The weekly threats are challenges that almost always mirror her problems, and she becomes all the more experienced after trouncing and cataloguing them. Her bogeymen enemies in "Hush" steal voices—coincidentally, she has trouble finding the words to reveal her secret life to then-boyfriend Riley (Marc Blucas) in the episode.

After Buffy quit school, the scenarios took a darker "life is hell" turn, and even more so after her own death and resurrection. Season six was characterized initially by a state of depression and confusion, and later shifted to a sense of direction. Her adventures reflected all that. Growing up is never easy, and we can all relate.

9) Good and evil belie appearances

Picturesque Sunnydale lies on top of a Hellmouth, so all sinister characters are drawn to the place. Bad guys are easily identifiable—usually. Vampires wear two faces: a regular human's, and a hideous predator's. The gorgeous Glory (Clare Kramer) is actually a diabolical god. Demons aren't always necessarily evil.

In Los Angeles, heroic vamp Angel (David Boreanaz) and half-demoness Cordelia have a hilarious do-gooder ally in Lorne (Andy Hallett), who looks like the typical demon from traditional beliefs. Their arch-foes are the good-looking but merciless human lawyers from the Wolfram and Hart firm.

8) Betrayal sucks

But it makes for great viewing! When Buffy and Angel first got intimate, this activated a curse that made the vampire lose his soul. He reverted to his evil ways, killed her Watcher's girlfriend, and almost destroyed the world.

The reckless Slayer Faith (Eliza Dushku) joined forces with Buffy's enemies after not fitting in with her friends or her moral codes. Lesbian witch Willow (Alyson Hannigan) went insane after her lover Tara (Amber Benson) was killed, beating up her pals Buffy and Giles (Anthony Stewart Head) with vile magic. These were some of the best and most difficult adversaries our heroine has had to face.

GELLAR plays a vampire slayer in one of the most intelligent and endearing shows on TV.

7) No one is an island

Survival in Sunnydale depends largely on depending on the right people. During town-wide mystical epidemics, the Scooby Gang is the team to beat when it comes to figuring out and solving these problems. Giles, Willow and Xander (Nicholas Brendon) comprise Buffy's reliable support group, through thick monster imbroglios and thin.

When everyone breaks into song (like in the "Once More With Feeling" musical episode), or loses their memories or their voices, teamwork can save the day. This extended family includes Buffy's "adopted" sis Dawn (Michelle Trachtenberg), reluctant vampire hero Spike (James Marsters), and a few others.

6) Baddies can reform

At least some of them do. Spike's brain implant prevents him from harming humans, and his love for Buffy made him a valuable ally. He even went on a quest to reclaim his lost soul, and succeeded. Others who were given second chances and are now allies include Anya (Emma Caulfield), who was a powerful ex-demon that granted wishes to hurting women; and Faith, who was convinced by Angel to take the path to redemption.

These volatile figures exemplify the show's unpredictability; symbolic of hope, change and life's more pleasant surprises. Some of season 7's true heroes are former bad guys.

5) Geeks kick major butt

Geek god Joss Whedon's universe is littered with diverse portrayals of the nerd species. Willow is a master hacker. Giles and the other Watchers are knowledgeable in ancient sorcery and monster books. Xander knows Star Trek languages, and can discuss the differences between red, gold and green Kryptonite with cool geek musician Oz (Seth Green).

Their combined minds have helped in the Slayer's missions. Their enemies, The Trio, meanwhile, are young brainiac "super-villains" who have been inventive in their use of both science and magic in their schemes.

4)Addiction is a b*tch

Willow's addiction to magic led to her breakup with Tara. She struggled to stay magic-free for

A TRUISM-HEAVY/C6

The 'StarStruck' idols: Ages 15-19

From page C3

their float through Cubao!

And **Mimi** and **Joanna**, stylists not used to being called "Ate," now know all 14 by first name, and at our shoot happily took up all the 14's earnest little queries about what shoe goes with what hairdo and tank top.

All told, the air around the kids may be described as rather genial, very comfy, and even possibly happy.

Some of the credit has to go to GMA-7, where, chances are, the atmosphere must be that: rather genial, very comfy, and even possibly happy. (Which, one supposes, can remain so, for as long as it is No. 1 without picking up the bad habits of being No. 1.)

Very nice kids

But in the end, the credit has to go to these 14 beautiful young people. Mind, there is something genuinely innocent, almost pure, about them.

I've seen it up close, having logged in some 12 hours with them over three different occasions.

It's in the way they've made best friends of each other, which gives me the overwhelming feeling that if an outsider hurt one of them, the others would be hurting too.

It's in the way **Yasmien** gamely follows an elder who bids her do the rounds of the tables at last Thursday's GMA-7 party at the Polo Club. Yasmien, who came in second overall among the females, stands there, waving a hand, saying hello, and offering a wide smile, even when some tables, preoccupied with their conversations, fail to acknowledge her presence.

It's in the way they all, like kids, go up to **Joey de Leon**, a judge at "StarStruck," and buss him on the cheek delightedly like he was their long-lost uncle by blood.

At the Yes! Extra shoot, I remember one moment of panic for the stylists who wanted a less casual look for Yasmien. She mainly had cotton casuals with her, and with the photographer ready to take the shot, the stylists quickly grabbed a nice spaghetti-strapped lace top from an open *maleta* nearby. Finding out the bag was **Jennylyn's**, the eventual winner, the stylists gingerly asked if they could filch the top for Yasmien. Jennylyn, not missing a beat, nodded her head, which was then currently being held in a vise by hair and makeup artist Denise.

I was close by, and I swear I saw no trace of hesitation, much less resentment, on Jennylyn's expression or body language. And it was a pretty blouse—so pretty that Yasmien actually wore it for the Yes! Extra cover!

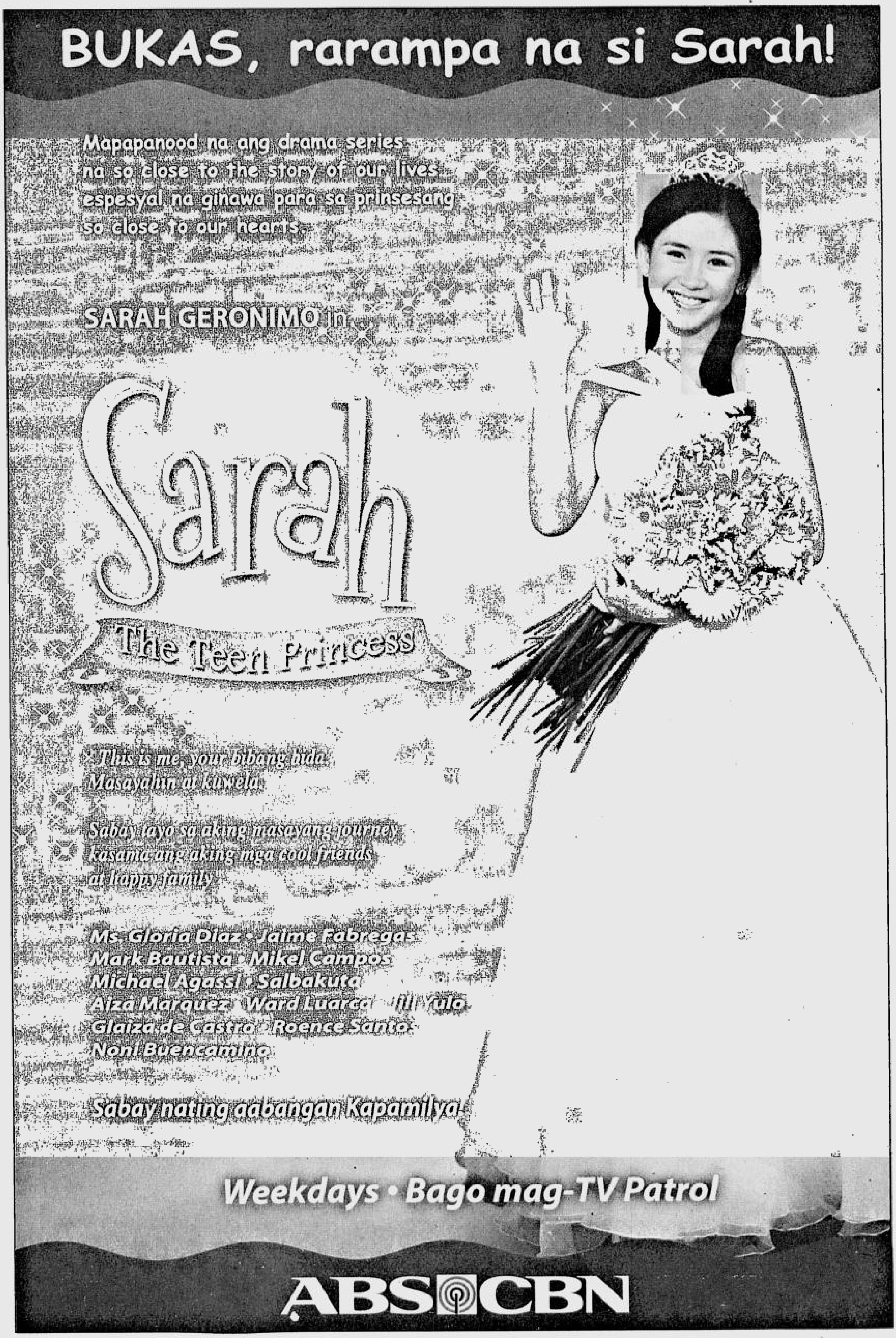
What happens next?

We don't know how fame will change these kids. We don't know how warring handlers and unfair reporters, big bucks and dependent families, loss of privacy and intense public scrutiny, too much work and too little sleep, among other industry pitfalls, will damage them.

But on this one, we are not listening to the cynics. We will go on thinking—until damned proof says otherwise—that these young people's reserves of what's innocent and pure will tide them over, right through to the day they become big stars, and through every day now that they care for their families.

Go ahead and call us starstruck!

*Note: Last Sunday, in the sentence that read "Except for three occasions . . . the outside **would** barely transgresses into the world of the tracks," the word **would** should have read **world**.*



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NESTOR DE VILLA

Life as a box-office hit

By Jocelyn Valle
Contributor

"MY father's life was a box-office hit."

This is how the eldest child of Nestor de Villa described the life of the late actor, who died last Feb. 21 of cardiac arrest.

"It was a perfect take," said Jeric Soriano, an advertising director, who also directed the feature film "Hotshots" in the '80s, during a service for the late actor last Thursday at the Worship Hall of the Christ's Commission Fellowship's Mandaluyong office.

Gines Francisco Soriano in real life, the actor was diagnosed to have cancer in 1998.

Good father

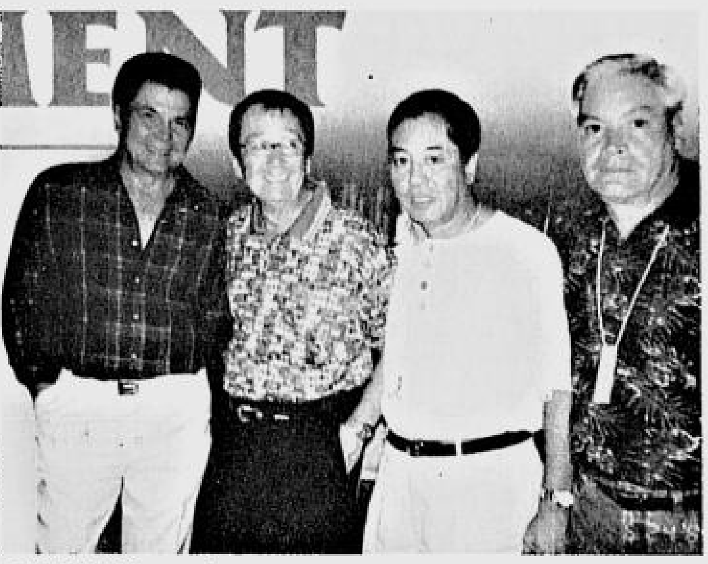
Although the public is familiar with Nestor, the actor, who was one-half of the Nida-Nestor love team on screen and television, his family remembers him more as a passionate preacher and a good father.

Jeric said during the service that he was amazed at how his father loved and served the Lord. He recalled some instances when strangers would tell him how his father's sharing of God's word had changed their lives.

"People would pull a picture out of their pockets to show me that they've been with my father," said Jeric.

The director's younger brother, Gicky, a pastor in California, recounted that during his father's last year in hospital "he couldn't stay put in bed. He would preach from bed to bed. He just couldn't stop preaching. He would preach in airports, planes, movie sets, even in a fire escape and there wasn't even a fire. One of the young men that he had preached to in a book section of a store is now a pastor in Cavite.

"He was an evangelist at heart. He was a faithful servant of the Lord. He was the living parable of a purpose-driven life."


THE LATE Nestor de Villa (second from left) with actor Bob Soler (left), singer Bert Nievera (second from right) and Felipe Gutierrez.

Youngest son Joby recounted with a grin how his father preached to his non-believer friend on a golf course. He himself heard his father preach all the time in their house.

"But I chose to live away from them," he said. "I was obsessed with money then. One day, I had *merienda* with my dad, and to my surprise, he didn't talk about the Bible. When I asked him how his life changed, he said 'Bible' and 'Jesus.'"

Hooked on God

In 1984, Joby remembered his father became a changed man.

"He stopped drinking and going out with his *barkada*," said the son who's now a pastor in CCF-Alabang.

In a video clip shown during the service, Nestor explained to an interviewer that he used to make alibis whenever he was invited to Bible studies. He finally gave in one time and got hooked—especially on God's message of salvation.

Actress Delia Razon said during the service that Nestor loved to preach to the crew of their sitcom, "Biglang Sibol."

"I would ask for a rehearsal with him and he was very spontaneous. He would memorize even my lines during the takes.

"We in LVN, we really love him," said Delia, referring to one of the biggest film companies of their generation to which both of them were under contract. "We really love him. He was a good person. We'll miss him."

Nestor was also a superb dad for his kids. Joby remembered his father joining his class' camping in Corregidor in the '60s.

"When the commandant found out that Nestor de Villa was in the camp, he called on him. Later on, he asked for me. And we ate good food like crabs while my friends were eating the beans that we cooked."

Nestor's only daughter, Karel, who didn't go up the stage when it was her turn to talk, said the actor was a regular dad.

Massages, Bible passages

"From the shootings, he'd call me to help take off his shoes," she said. "He would also ask me for a massage."

After living in the States with her family for years, Karel (now Soriano-Belda) came back here in January to be with her dad.

"He didn't know that I was coming. It was a joy seeing him. I'm so proud to be the only daughter of the man who loved God."

The mood at the service was far from being melancholic. The CCF choir opened the service with a series of Nestor's favorite praise and worship tunes. All the speakers quoted some of Nestor's favorite biblical passages and verses.

Celebration

Pastor Peter Tanchi of CCF-Mandaluyong revealed to the audience that Nestor's last statement was Psalms 23:1: "The Lord is my Shepherd."

"We're basically celebrating tonight," announced Jeric, who closely resembles the actor. "We got a cremation schedule at 6 p.m. and by 9:30, it was finished. Then my mom (Marilu) said she was hungry. We didn't have lunch. So we went to have a good Chinese dinner. When we got to the parking lot, we didn't want to leave dad in the car and so we brought the urn with us.

"As in all malls, there was a security guard who was checking bags. When the guard asked what's in the urn. I told him, 'You don't wanna know. He might preach at you.'"

But when Jeric got home, he was tossing and turning in bed.

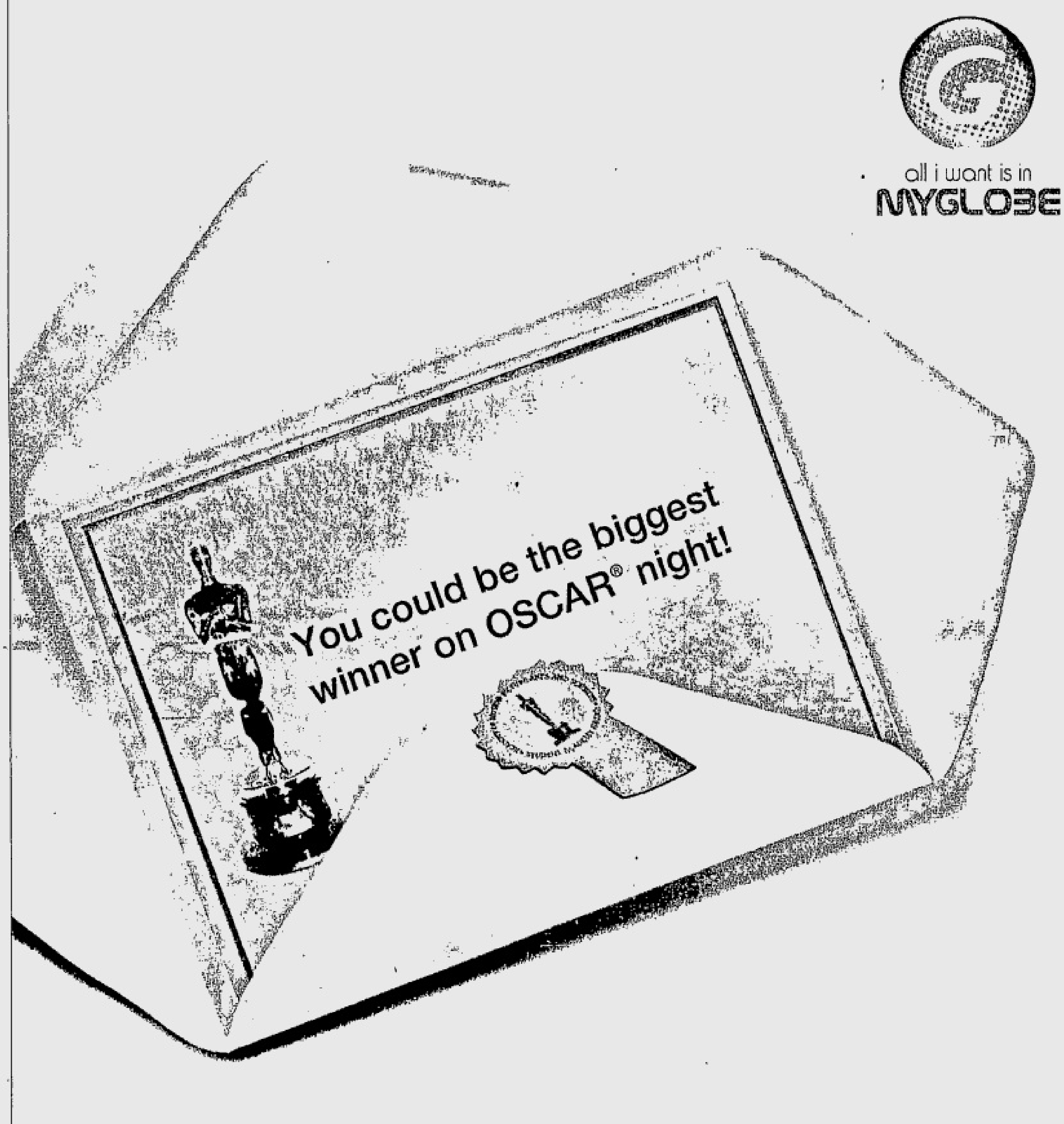
"At 2 in the morning, I felt creative. I got together some of dad's old stuff and made these," he said, pointing to a memorial table for Nestor.

Color of blood

It had framed pictures of the actor as a young man and, later on, as a photography buff. On a director's chair is a reel of film, an old camera and a clapboard with words: Nestor de Villa/LVN Studios, Director: Jeric Soriano.

The urn was the center of the table and adorned with red roses.

"Red is an eternal color. It is also like the blood of Christ," Joby explained on the choice of flowers. He added that the urn would be kept in his parents' home in Alabang "until future plans are made." Joby explained that Nestor asked to be cremated because his father had told them: "Let my body go back to the Lord."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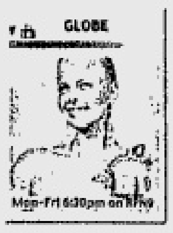

Charlize Theron now enjoys the Oscar goodie bag. Reportedly the most luxurious in the Academy Awards history, with 4 tickets to Celine Dion's concert and $9,000 in spending money at the hotel.

GLOBE
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Renee Zellweger may soon be basking at either the ulta-private resort or the Auberge du Soleil. A $4,000 getaway is just one of the tidbits in this year's Oscar Gift Basket.

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And the winner is...

By Carmina Sanchez
Contributor

WE MAY play the endless game of who wins what on Oscars night, but the true winner—with all due respect to the great actors, directors and storytellers of our time—is the woman who wears the most memorable gown.

Hundreds of thousands of dollars are spent each year as couture houses and top-notch fashion designers vie for the actress whom they feel has the best chance of being photographed most on Oscar night. The Oscars are the Superbowl of the movie industry.

Sometimes, it may not even matter if the woman is nominated or not. As long as a star comes dressed like a winner, the shutterbugs click away, paving the path to fashion glory.

One perfect example is superstar Jennifer Lopez. Though she has landed on both worst-dressed and best-dressed lists countless of times, she has had a few recent unforgettable red-carpet moments.

Lopez's 2001 Chanel gown was her first real good choice. It veered her away from the image of the street fashion-wearing woman she had come to be notorious for.

Last year, Lopez wore Jacqueline Kennedy-Onassis' mint-green Valentino caftan with only great earrings and a great-looking date as accessories.

And very recently, she showed off her golden tan with a yellow-orange number with silver ribbon detail from Michael Kors—proof that although acting critics may yet find her award-worthy, fashion critics have declared her a winner.

Oscar-worthy or not, recent years have seen the fashion evolution of Gwyneth Paltrow, Nicole Kidman, Halle Berry, Uma Thurman, Cate Blanchett, Renee Zellweger, Catherine Zeta-Jones, Diane Lane, Kate Hudson and Salma Hayek.

These women have been the hottest properties in recent awards seasons. In fact, fashion houses vie against one another to dress them.

Why all this fuss over a few yards of cloth and maybe a handful of strings, hooks and buttons?

It is simply because the Oscars have become the most effective marketing tool for the fashion industry.

Of course, there will always be the year-round Fashion Weeks in New York, London and Paris. But they take time to deliver.

With a star wearing a couture piece that millions of women (all watching television at the same time) would die to own, thousands of knock-offs—and many other pieces inspired by such a cut, style or color—are instantly stocked in stores and almost guaranteed to sell like hotcakes.

Though truly beautiful to behold, all that pomp and pageantry is really, in the end, only

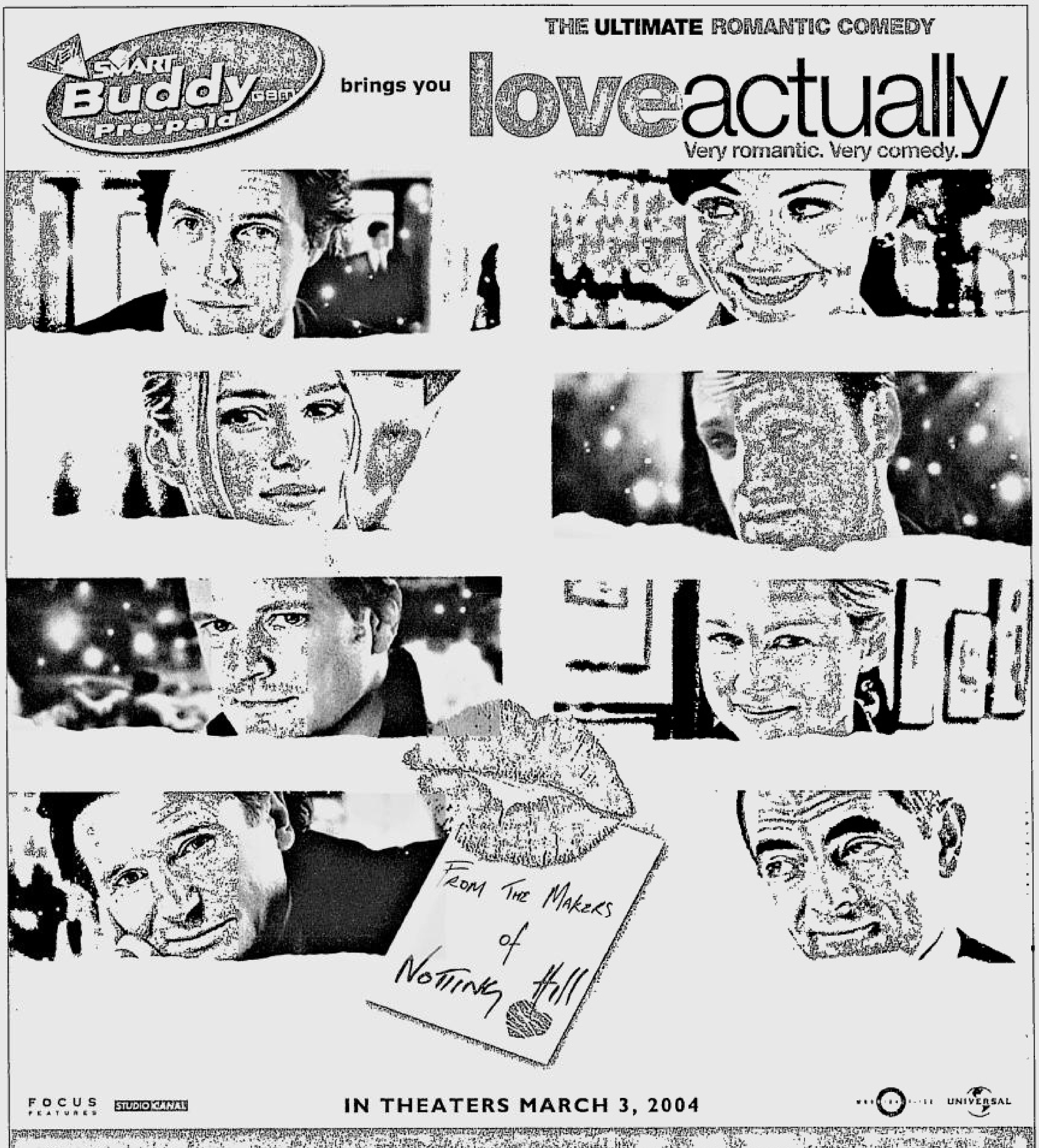
AND THE WINNER/ D2

CATHERINE Zeta-Jones in Versace, 2003

Never mind the envelope. Everybody is looking to find out who will shine and who will stumble on the red carpet

DIANE Lane in Oscar de la Renta, 2003

RENEE Zellweger in Carolina Herrera, 2003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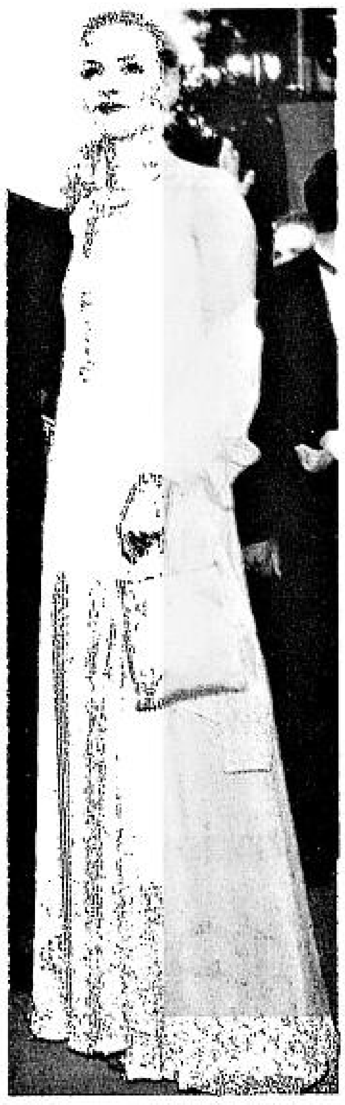
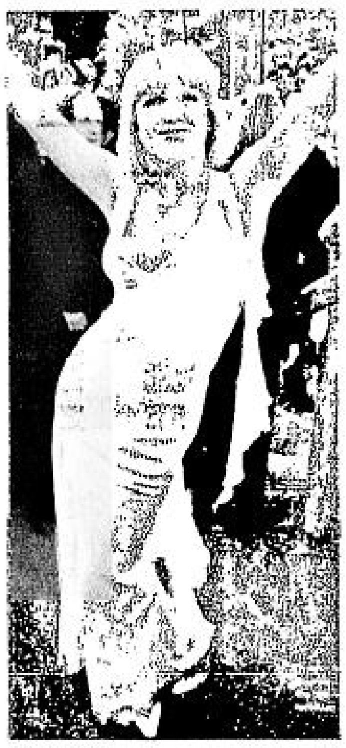
Oscar red-carpet glory

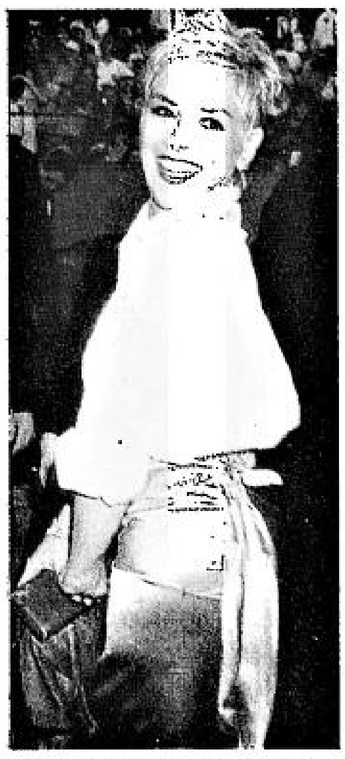
Despite the lack of visual guides to earlier Oscar years, here are the 10 most unforgettable gowns in recent memory



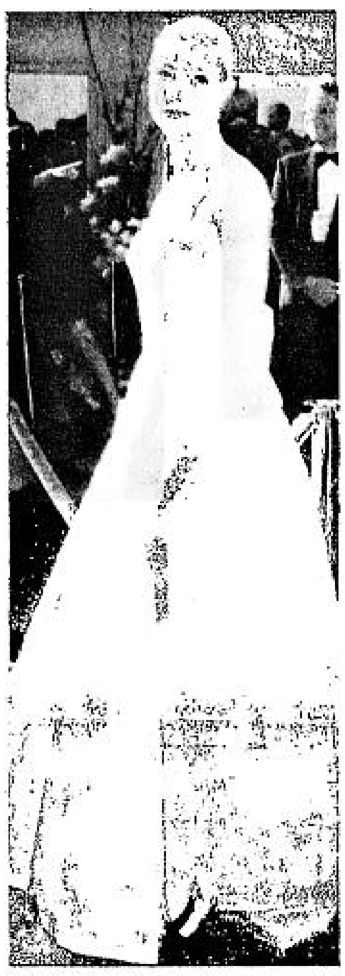
UMA THURMAN, 1995
Uma's lavender Prada gown established the new wave of "sophisticated restraint" in Oscar fashion. The beaded chiffon confection was fun and sexy, but entirely new to the red carpet because of its cut and subtle style.



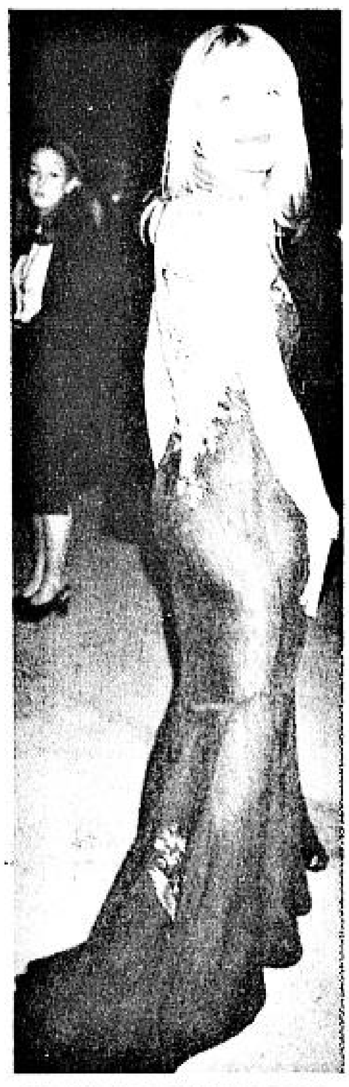
COURTNEY LOVE, 1996
This white chiffon Versace with a deep V-neck and a hint of a train made her look like a true celebrity—something she has yet to accomplish again.



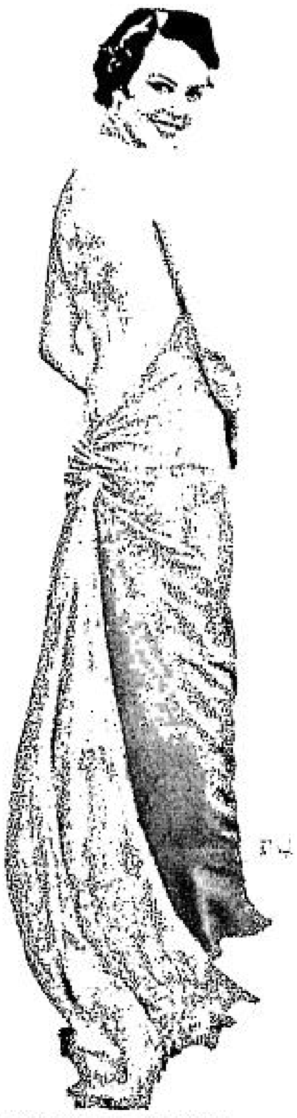
SHARON STONE, 1998
Wearing her then husband Phil Bronstein's plain white shirt with a Vera Wang skirt, Sharon Stone showed us that she indeed was a woman of style, one who doesn't seem to put much thought into what she wears but looks amazing anyway.



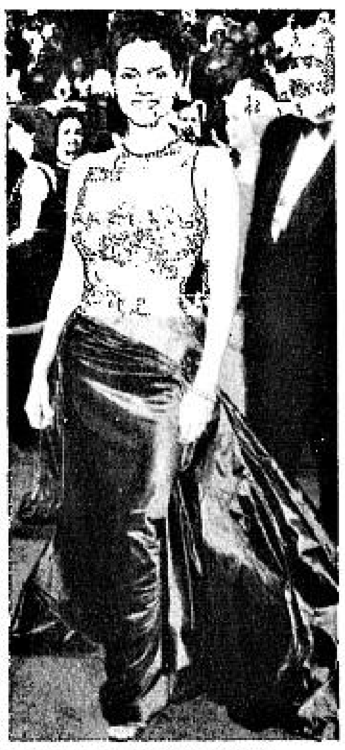
GWYNETH PALTROW, 1999
Although most fashion critics hated the fit of her Ralph Lauren frock, no one could forget how beautiful the color looked on the red carpet and on stage as Gwyneth received her Oscar that year.



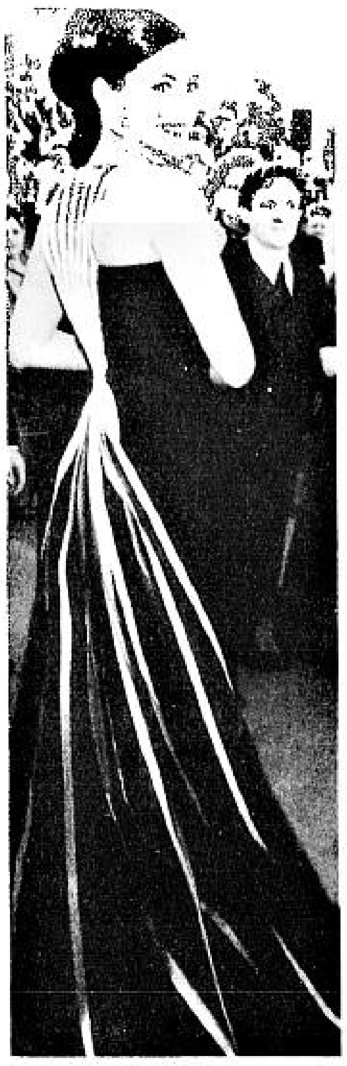
CATE BLANCHETT, 1999
Nominated for her role as Queen Elizabeth, Cate was nothing like the old ballgown-wearing lady she played when she picked a very sexy purple knit gown with hummingbirds and flowers scattered about on its sheer back. It was made by John Galliano.



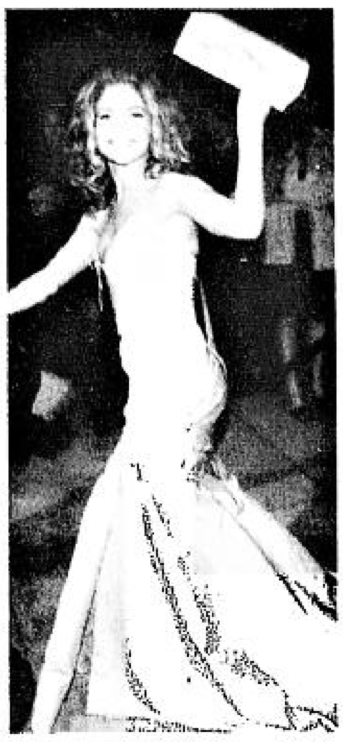
CHARLIZE THERON, 2000
Proving once again that the vintage look done well can be truly stylish and unforgettable, Charlize chose a daring Vera Wang dress in orange held up by a couple of big earrings worn as brooches.



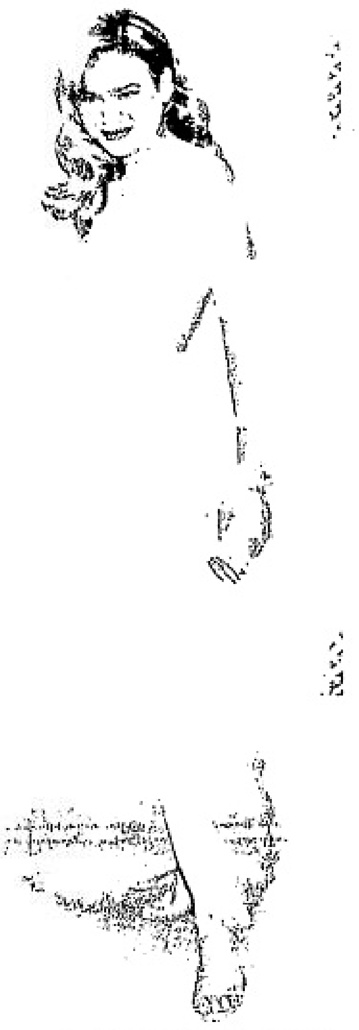
HALLE BERRY, 2002
As she won for "Monster's Ball" that year, the stunning Halle wore this Elie Saab wine-colored ball gown with a floral-embroidered mesh top. Fashion critics from all over the world had only great things to say about this choice, as well as this woman's unbelievable figure.



JULIA ROBERTS, 2001
Vintage Valentino suited the year's best actress winner, who looked regal in her black and white ensemble with mesh inserts.



JENNIFER LOPEZ, 2001
With this off-shoulder, non-traditional Chanel gown, J.Lo proved that there was more to her style than just her bling-bling.



RENEE ZELLWEGER, 2001
Choosing canary yellow to wear against the bright red carpet would have seemed too risky a choice, until Renee proved otherwise. She looked like a million dollars, minus huge jewelry pieces, in her Jean Desses 1950s gown, which she wore because "...it's old and it fit and I love it."

PHOTOS FROM "75 YEARS OF OSCAR STYLE"
SPECIAL THANKS TO PATRICK ROSAS

And the winner is . . .

From page D1

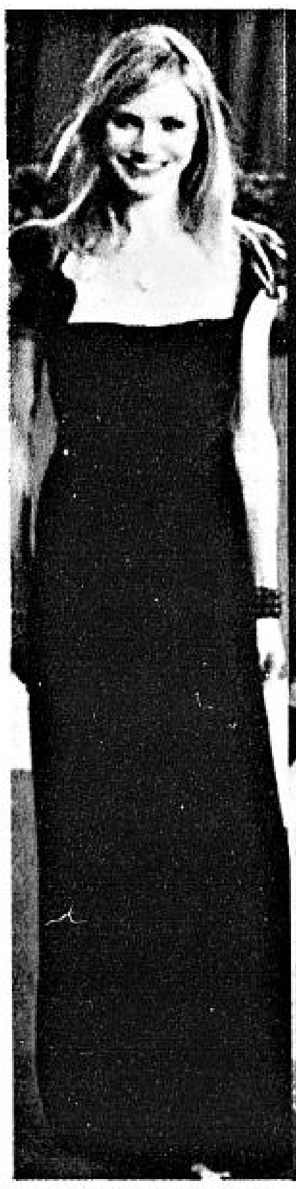
business as usual.

But let's not allow all that business talk get us down. For the true-blue fashion fan, this year has been an exciting build-up to the best-dressed star on the red carpet.

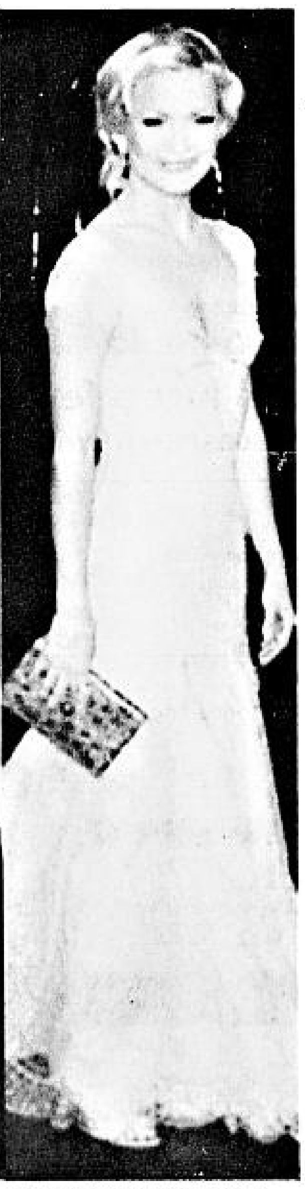
With bated breath we await who Charlize Theron and Renee Zellweger, the two hottest stars of these year's awards season, will wear.

Will Renee be predictable in another Carolina Herrera creation? Or will Charlize, who has chosen Gucci in the season's hottest purple for the Screen Actors Guild Awards and a lemony Christian Dior for the Golden Globes, outshine her in another stunner of a dress?

As the cameras train on the red carpet and the lights flash on the stars alighting from stretch limos, our hearts will skip a beat when we hear fashion critics announce this year's true Oscar winner.

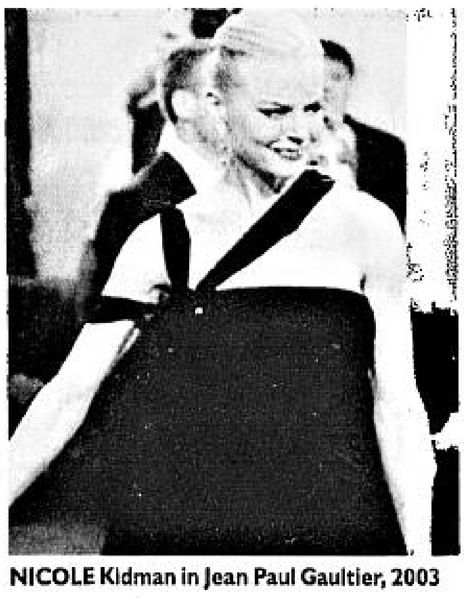


CAMERON Diaz in Prada, 2003

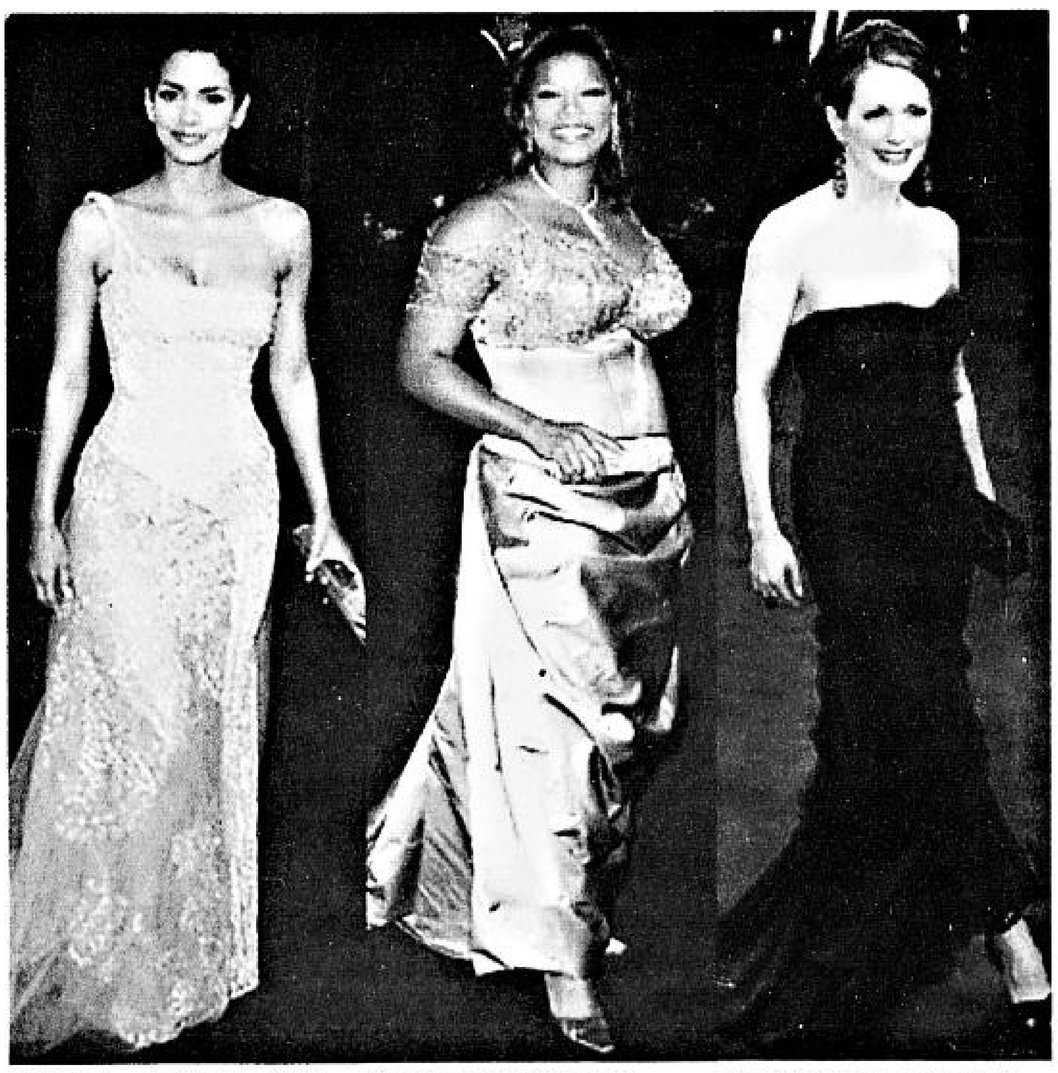


KATE Hudson in Versace, 2003

PHOTOS FROM STYLE.COM AND PEOPLE, "75 YEARS OF OSCAR STYLE"
SPECIAL THANKS TO PATRICK ROSAS.



NICOLE Kidman in Jean Paul Gaultier, 2003



HALLE Berry in Elie Saab, 2003

QUEEN Latifah in Bradley Bayou for Halston, 2003

JULIANNE Moore in YSL Rive Gauche, 2003

Worth the Long Wait:
SMART Buddy Welcomes
jason mraz

Jason feels right at home on the stage

Buddy
SON
MRAZ
LIVE IN MANILA

Fielding questions at the press conference at sidebar in El Pueblo

Hugh grant look-a-like?

Perhaps Paolo Santos said it best. When "Mr. Acoustic" mentioned last Saturday that he first heard about Jason Mraz possibly visiting Manila eight months ago, he couldn't believe it. Now, he was serving as opening act for the guy who sang one of Paolo's favorites, "Sleep All Day" from Jason's debut album Waiting for my Rocket to Come. No doubt that everyone in the Aliw Theater audience shared Paolo's sentiments as they eagerly awaited the arrival of the unassuming kid from Mechanicsville, Virginia who rules the Manila airwaves.

SMART Buddy brought singer/songwriter Jason Mraz to the Aliw Theater at the CCP Complex last February 21. A few lucky SMART Buddy subscribers had the chance to meet Jason just by buying a SMART Buddy 64K Super SIM 2 at Metro Manila SMART Wireless Centers. Purchasing the SMART Buddy 64K Super SIM 2 at select SMART Wireless Centers also won them free tickets to that same phenomenal concert.

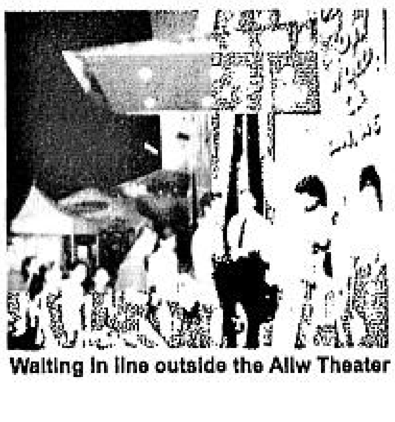
Jason took the stage after Paolo's short set with his five-man band led by percussionist extraordinaire Toca Rivera. For the next hour and a half, the audience was treated to more than the pop tunes and manufactured hits from so many passing fancies on the radio today. Instead, Jason showed off his impressive repertoire, and different musical influences. From folk, country, pop, rock, jazz, latino, and soul, Jason proved that there's a lot of substance to this self-professed shy guy who nobody paid attention to in high school.

Not one to disappoint, Jason performed hits from his debut album like "The Remedy", "Curbside Prophet", "You and I Both" and his breakthrough single "Sleep All Day". But for the kid who once dreamed of releasing an album of just collaborations with artists he grew up idolizing, there was also a cool rendition of the Hall & Oates classic "I Can't Go for That (No Can Do)" in the mix. As the evening wound down and as the crowd chanted "Jason! Jason!" waiting for an encore, Jason re-emerged from backstage on roller skates as if to show how at ease he was on the Aliw Theater stage. He ended the concert with another of his originals, the catchy "Too Much Food", undoubtedly leaving everyone who attended aching for even more from the enigmatic Mr. Mraz.

Only SMART Buddy can bring a world-class performer like Jason Mraz to the Philippines, and the fun doesn't end here! In just a few weeks, SMART Buddy will welcome the rock stylings of Incubus to Manila. So stay tuned as SMART Buddy continues to reshape the local musical landscape in 2004!

"Mr. Acoustic" Paolo Santos warmed up the crowd

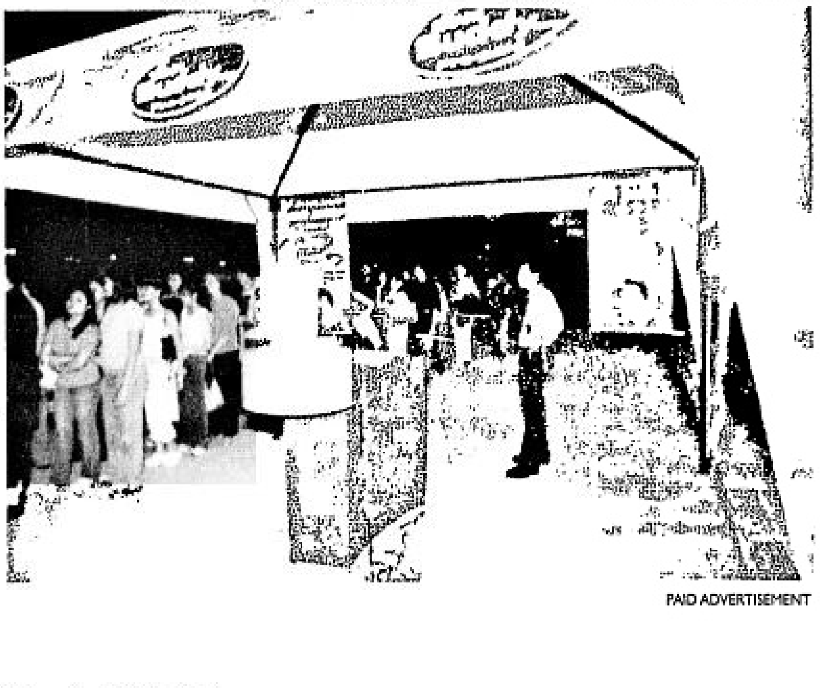
The lucky SMART [illegible]
buddy
JA
Vele


Waiting in line outside the Aliw Theater

It's all about the music

The venue was packed, and everyone went home happy

Jason (seated) takes questions from the media



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SWATCH big man Asi Taulava wears the new Swatch Touch French Lover. Grooming by Patrick Rosas, styling by Celine Lopez

Big man with a light touch

SWATCH big man Asi Taulava, the Philippine Basketball Association's MVP and Talk 'N Text Phone Pals star player, gets in touch with Swatch's latest innovation. Going for an all out training regime, big man Asi includes training his touch to enjoy his Swatch Touch watches.

Each watch in the new Swatch touch family has special additional functions: Swatch Touch Alarm, Swatch Game and Swatch Touch Loomi. The additional functions of the individual models can be activated by simply tapping the watch glass with your finger.

The brain in all Swatch Touch models is a chip with a sensor called an accelerometer. Forces of acceleration that act on the watch are converted into electronic commands for the special functions. The amazing thing about it is that not all such forces cause something to happen in a Swatch Touch. The accelerometer does not react if you swing your arm quickly while wearing the watch on your wrist, if you clap your hands, or even if the watch falls on the floor. But it does react to a slight tap of your finger. The chip is calibrated to make such forces the trigger for the special functions.

Swatch Touch is available at all Gift Gate, Swatch Stores and Kiosks nationwide. Gift Gate, Inc. is the exclusive distributor of Swatch in the Philippines.

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MERCHANT REWARDS

The 6th Annual Ayala Malls Merchants Rewards recognizes the 2003 Stores of the Year and other shops that have excelled in Visual Merchandising, Marketing and Store Operations in an invitation only event on March 2, 2004, 6 pm at Greenbelt 3 Park.

AYALA MALLS
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Sunday LIFESTYLE

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or e-mail us at pr_lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

Rose petals have religious icons

PURELY PERSONAL

Josephine Darang

WHEN the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to a young man in the Philippines on Aug. 15, 1991, 3 a.m., it would be the start of a series of miracles leading to the healing of the sick and the building of a chapel in Sta. Maria, Bulacan.

Bro. Carmelo Cortez, who was only 21 years old then, said the Virgin appeared to him in a brilliant light inside his room and asked him to tell the people to go back to the Sacraments and to pray for priests. She also told him to build a house of prayer on a 12 x 12 meters space. Where? He was guided later to the place.

MOTHER of the Eucharist and Grace outside the chapel in San Vicente, Sta. Maria, Bulacan

In the years that followed, rosary vigils were held the night before the first Saturday of the month in a temporary chapel in Caloocan. An image of the Virgin dressed in white was made, her heart visible, and the Eucharist in the center surrounded by 12 golden stars. Her right hand held the rosary and her left hand the scapular.

On Dec. 8, 1994, Carmelo and other devotees followed the dancing sun, driving north from Manila until they reached barrio San Vicente in Sta. Maria, Bulacan. Friends and relatives helped pay for the lot where a small chapel was built immediately. People started attending the Holy Mass at 12 nn of the first Saturday of the month and the healing afterwards.

When roses were blessed, some fortunate people would get a rose petal with an icon inscribed miraculously. It could be the Annunciation, the Nativity, Jesus on the Cross and many more. The petals were pressed between the pages of prayer books, brought out from time to time as their owners prayed for healing. Cancer cells disappeared, operations did not take place anymore and even barren women conceived.

New title for Mary

Guided by the Virgin herself, Carmelo discerned that she wanted to be called "Mother of the Eucharist and Grace." Chapel groundbreaking took place on June 12, 1999. Malolos Bishop Rolando Tria Tirona and Bishop Almario officiated.

At present, the chapel has a capacity of 800 people. The more than life-size image of the Virgin stands outside and can be seen from the altar.

On June 12, 2001, the 10th anniversary of the apparition, a priest stood outside when Carmelo told him, "Father, the Virgin is in front

ROSE/ E4

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

To Our Valued SMART Buddy Subscribers, Dealers and Agents:

Counterfeit SMART Buddy Call & Text Cards are reportedly being sold to unsuspecting dealers and pre-paid subscribers.

Although these appear to be isolated cases, we are recommending the following precautionary measures against such unscrupulous actions:

a. Purchase SMART Buddy Call & Text Cards (in denominations of P300, P500 and P1,000) from authorized SMART dealers and agents only;

b. Load the value of the card immediately upon purchase in order for the store personnel to provide assistance should problems be encountered.

If you happen to purchase a counterfeit card, immediately contact telephone number **(02) 888 1111** and provide details about the person, store or establishment who sold it.

SMART Communications, Inc. shall not hesitate to prosecute individuals or entities who deal in any manner with the aforementioned counterfeit SMART Buddy Call & Text Cards.

This notice to the public is being issued to protect the subscribers, dealers and agents of SMART Communications, Inc.

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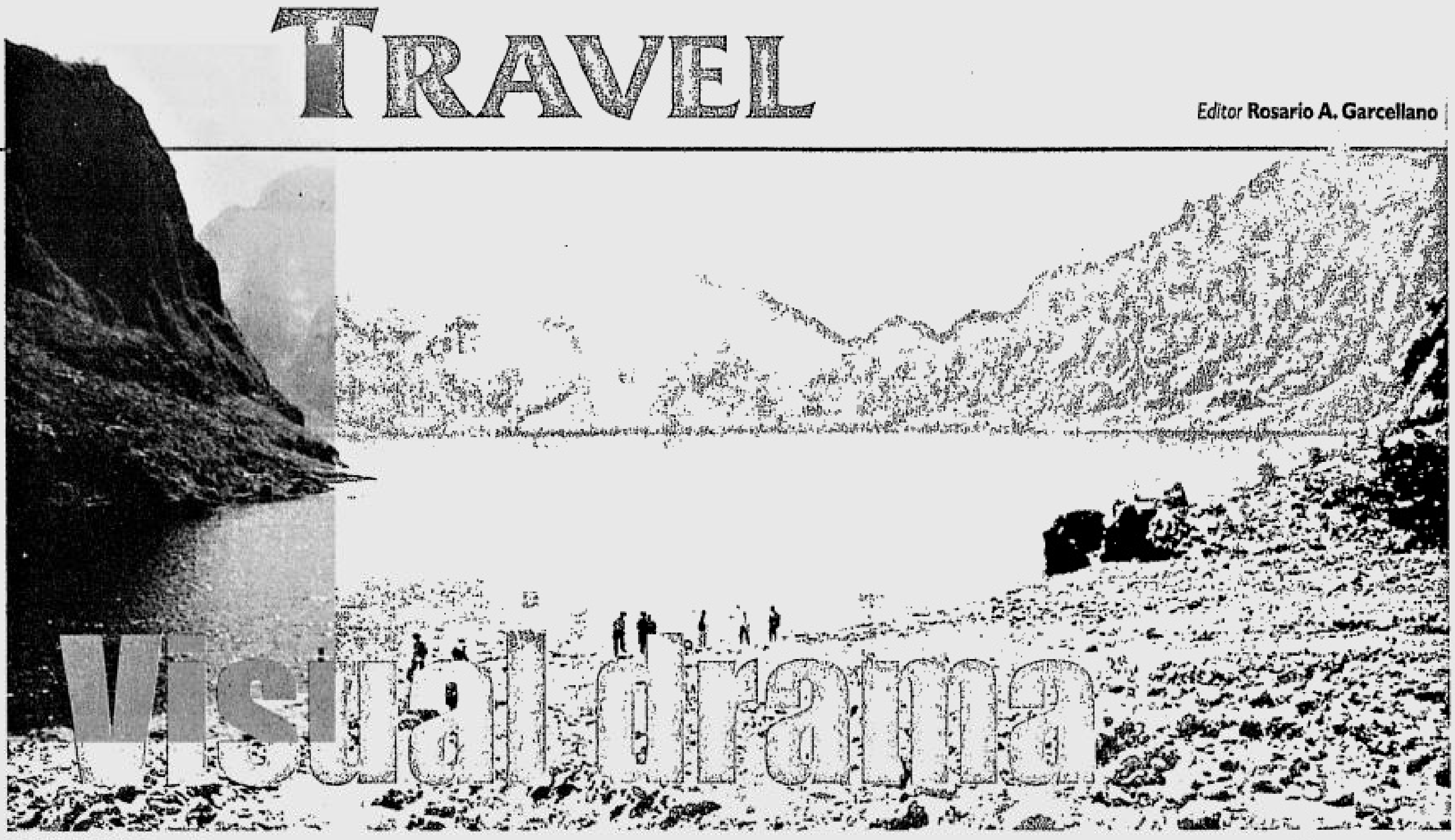
Visual drama



AT THE PEAK, the caldera

Text and photos by Eduardo M. Enriquez
Contributor

WHEN I was invited to join a day trip to Mt. Pinatubo, I didn't think twice.

I was informed that there wouldn't be much shade, so I should wear a light long-sleeved shirt and light pants; that because my feet would get wet, shoes and socks were out of the question and sandals were recommended; and that food and water would be provided.

Thus, the appointed morning (2:30 a.m. of Jan. 31) finds me in light nylon jogging pants, a T-shirt, and rubber athletic sandals with nylon straps. In my backpack is a light long-sleeved sweater; an instamatic camera; a light nylon cap; and a pair of sunglasses.

There are nine of us in the group, including Mhatz, representative of Causeway Tours.

Taking the North Expressway, the trip from Metro Manila to Barangay Santa Juliana in Capas, Tarlac, lasts over three hours.

Dawn has yet to break when the van finally stops and breakfast packs and bottles of water are handed out. I tuck into a bun of vegan *siopao* as Mhatz hands me a large bag of fruit. (I had informed her beforehand that I don't eat meat.)

The sky is thinning from black to blue when we board the jeepney that will take our Aeta guides and us even closer to Pinatubo, home of their supreme god Apo na Mallari. The trip to the drop-off point takes around 45 minutes.

The green vegetation contrasts well with the gray sand. Young toads hop about; on the vast plain of sand and rocks, they represent the return of life since the catastrophic eruption more than a decade ago.

We behold dramatic formations of pyroclastic sand marked by deep furrows and sparse plant life. Collapsed sections are a lighter shade of gray (massive arctic glaciers come to mind).

In my travels throughout our country, it is here, in the awesome wake of the volcano's eruption, that the amazing power of nature makes its most profound impression.

Big bang

Pinatubo had been dormant for 450 years when it made its terrible international debut in 1991. Rising to a height of about 4,800 feet prior to the eruption, it had preceded the big bang with two months of emissions and small explosions. As many as 2,000 high-frequency volcanic quakes were recorded on June 7 alone.

The series of explosions, earthquakes and pyroclastic flows still didn't qualify for an official eruption until Independence Day morning. At 8:51 a.m. on June 12, 1991, the 93rd anniversary of the Philippines' liberation from Spain, three major explosions, the most powerful of which ejected a huge, gray, mushroom-shaped cloud that reached 20 kilometers above the vent, followed intense seismic activity. Pinatubo also ejected ash, pumice, and other larger volcanic fragments. Major rivers and tributaries radiating from the volcano overflowed with cascading pyroclastic flows. Shortly before midnight, a second series of strong explosions hurled clouds of ash and pyroclastic materials 25 km into the air.

The days that followed saw massive destruction in the surrounding area, particularly in the immediate provinces of Zambales, Pampanga and Tarlac.

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AETA guides by the water

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The ash and smoke cloud ejected by Pinatubo in 1991 contained about twice as much matter as that thrown up in 1982 by southern Mexico's El Chichón volcano, making it the largest eruption of the 20th century.

The injection of massive amounts of particulates into the stratosphere resulted in a distinct drop in temperatures worldwide. The suspended mineral particles also decreased atmospheric transparency and resulted in beautiful, extraordinary sunsets.

Stunning scenery

"Beautiful" and "extraordinary" are fitting adjectives for the landscape my companions and I are traversing.

Dramatic, towering cliffs and valleys surround vast plains of sand and stone riddled with clear, rushing streams. It is as if we have stepped into the Pleistocene Epoch.

Eager to document the stunning scenery, we constantly stop to take photos, grateful for the dramatic slant of rays from the early-morning sun.

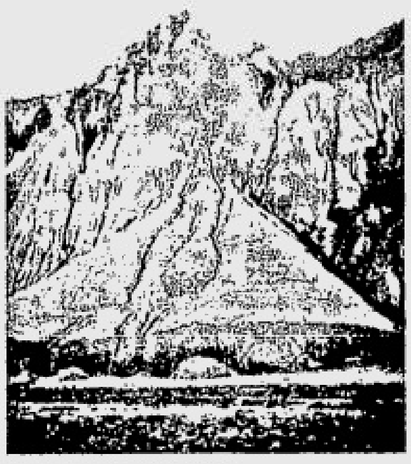
(We come across bits of litter here and there, although in minimal amounts. One of my companions expresses hope that the human visitors and stewards of Pinatubo will be able to maintain the area's natural beauty.)

Sand, rocks and boulders make up the steep cliffs. Every now and then, we witness a cloud of dust fall from the cliffs and are reminded of the danger of walking too close to the fragile formations. It isn't difficult to understand why hiking is forbidden here during the rainy season.

Our proximity to the volcano notwithstanding, only once do we come across a thermal brook. It trickles weakly, issuing steam and the unmistakable smell of sulfur.

I soon learn to both enjoy and dread the numerous streams that we cross. Although the strong current washes away the grains of sand that had been wedged under my sandal straps, the water also softens my skin, making it even more tender when new grains replace those that had been dislodged.

LIKE stepping into the Pleistocene Epoch



EVIDENCE of avalanche

By day's end, after a demanding hike of almost 10 hours, several among us had numerous little raw areas on our feet.

It appears that wearing sandals doesn't work for everyone at Pinatubo. If you can stand damp feet for several hours, you might want to wear sand-proof hiking boots with high socks. I recommend sturdy flip-flops with soft, loose fabric thongs.

Crater lake

After the long stretch of slightly inclined plains comes the steep flank of the volcano. Less sand, more soil, boulders and shrubbery, and a brook with cool potable water mark our progress.

It's hard work, and I wish I hadn't been so sedentary prior to the trip. I've also forgotten my sunblock and can tell from the warmth on my nape and ears that they'll be sore with sunburn in the following days.

Five hours after we began our hike, we reach the crater. In the caldera lies a large lake, its surface gently lapping at the sides of the basin.

From the shore, we test the water, which had recently turned brown (it's usually bluish-green). It isn't warm and doesn't smell sulfuric, either. Well, at least from where we are.

But personnel of the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology are there, taking water samples to help determine the cause of the recent change in color. They suspect algal blooms, but the final word will come from their main headquarters in Diliman, Quezon City. (Several days later, Phivolcs is quoted as saying that the tests were inconclusive. But it advises visitors not to swim in or drink the water.)

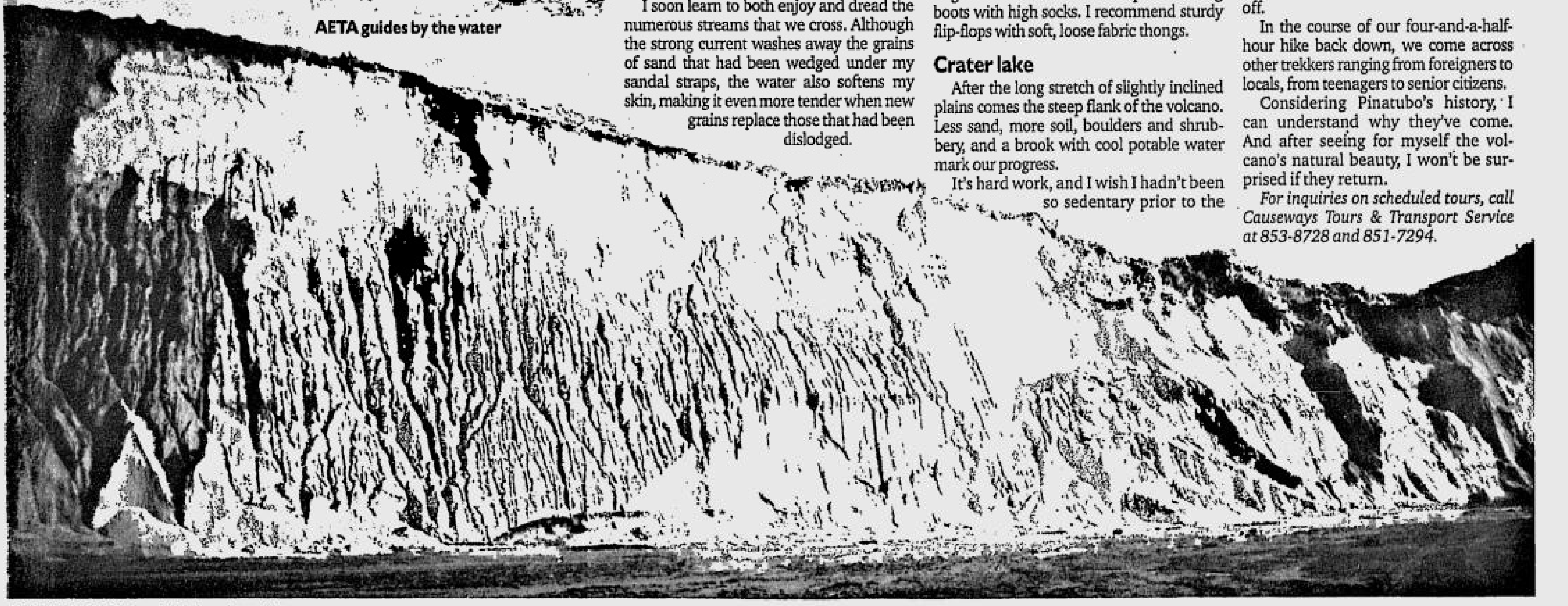
It's almost noon. We crawl under a low structure of sticks that serves as a place to rest and take shelter from the sun. Mhatz distributes lunch packs and bottles of water.

Soon, I see my companions dozing off.

In the course of our four-and-a-half-hour hike back down, we come across other trekkers ranging from foreigners to locals, from teenagers to senior citizens.

Considering Pinatubo's history, I can understand why they've come. And after seeing for myself the volcano's natural beauty, I won't be surprised if they return.

For inquiries on scheduled tours, call Causeways Tours & Transport Service at 853-8728 and 851-7294.



DRAMATIC effects of wind and gravity.

TRAVELBRIEFS

Indulgence

LOCAL residents and *balikbayan* are invited to relax with Manila Pavilion's "Indulgence," a room package that includes a de luxe room, buffet breakfast for two, and a massage and Chinese foot scrub at the Embassy Spa.

The package is available at the hotel on UN Avenue in Manila until May 31.

Call 526-1212 extensions 2333 or 2369 for inquiries.

Safety Award

EMIRATES, flag carrier of the United Arab Emirates, recently gave the MacroAsia-Eurest Catering Services (MECS) a Safety Award and renewed its in-flight catering agreement with the airline for a three-year term starting last month.

MECS is also the caterer of Singapore Airlines, Cathay Pacific and Qantas, and includes Saudia, Northwest Airlines, Air France and China Airlines among its major clients.

It is headed by general manager Tomas Jamtander.

3 in a row

FOR the third year in a row, 357 Boracay was named outstanding beach resort of the year by the National Consumer Affairs Foundation (NCAF).

The resort has an exclusive ferry service to and from Caticlan and Kalibo in Aklan, and has facilities for scuba, parasailing, snorkeling, jet-skiing and windsurfing.

The NCAF yearly awards are aimed at recognizing outstanding Philippine consumer products, services, business utilities and manufacturers.

For vacations at 357 Boracay, call 899-1943 to 44.

TRAVEL

Editor **Rosario A. Garcellano**

Visual drama

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by Eduardo M. Enriquez
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Dramatic, towering cliffs and valleys surround vast plains of sand and stone riddled with clear, rushing streams. It is as if we have stepped into the Pleistocene Epoch.

Eager to document the stunning scenery, we constantly stop to take photos, grateful for the dramatic slant of rays from the early-morning sun.

(We come across bits of litter here and there, although in minimal amounts. One of my companions expresses hope that the human visitors and stewards of Pinatubo will be able to maintain the area's natural beauty.)

Sand, rocks and boulders make up the steep cliffs. Every now and then, we witness a cloud of dust fall from the cliffs and are reminded of the danger of walking too close to the fragile formations. It isn't difficult to understand why hiking is forbidden here during the rainy season.

Our proximity to the volcano notwithstanding, only once do we come across a thermal brook. It trickles weakly, issuing steam and the unmistakable smell of sulfur.

I soon learn to both enjoy and dread the numerous streams that we cross. Although the strong current washes away the grains of sand that had been wedged under my sandal straps, the water also softens my skin, making it even more tender when new grains replace those that had been dislodged.

LIKE stepping into the Pleistocene Epoch

EVIDENCE of avalanche

By day's end, after a demanding hike of almost 10 hours, several among us had numerous little raw areas on our feet.

It appears that wearing sandals doesn't work for everyone at Pinatubo. If you can stand damp feet for several hours, you might want to wear sand-proof hiking boots with high socks. I recommend sturdy flip-flops with soft, loose fabric thongs.

Crater lake

After the long stretch of slightly inclined plains comes the steep flank of the volcano. Less sand, more soil, boulders and shrubbery, and a brook with cool potable water mark our progress.

It's hard work, and I wish I hadn't been so sedentary prior to the trip. I've also forgotten my sunblock and can tell from the warmth on my nape and ears that they'll be sore with sunburn in the following days.

Five hours after we began our hike, we reach the crater. In the caldera lies a large lake, its surface gently lapping at the sides of the basin.

From the shore, we test the water, which had recently turned brown (it's usually bluish-green). It isn't warm and doesn't smell sulfuric, either. Well, at least from where we are.

But personnel of the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology are there, taking water samples to help determine the cause of the recent change in color. They suspect algal blooms, but the final word will come from their main headquarters in Diliman, Quezon City. (Several days later, Phivolcs is quoted as saying that the tests were inconclusive. But it advises visitors not to swim in or drink the water.)

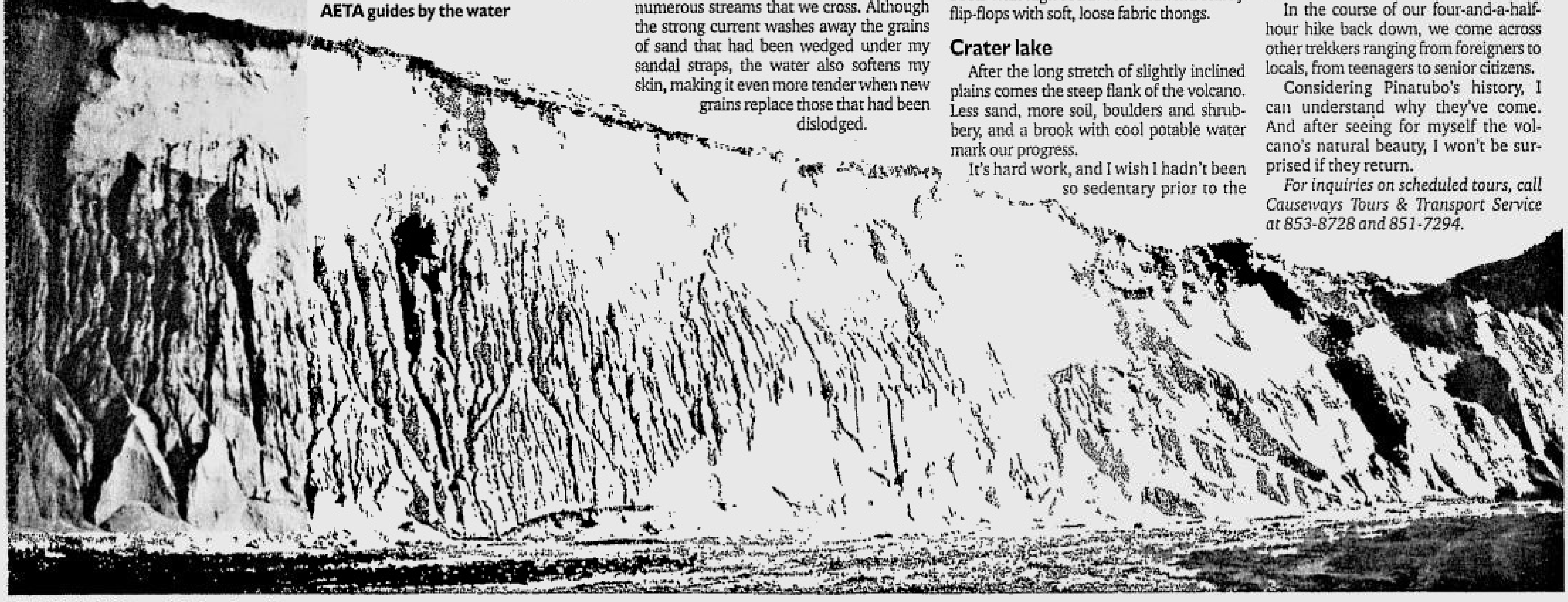
It's almost noon. We crawl under a low structure of sticks that serves as a place to rest and take shelter from the sun. Mhatz distributes lunch packs and bottles of water.

Soon, I see my companions dozing off.

In the course of our four-and-a-half-hour hike back down, we come across other trekkers ranging from foreigners to locals, from teenagers to senior citizens.

Considering Pinatubo's history, I can understand why they've come. And after seeing for myself the volcano's natural beauty, I won't be surprised if they return.

For inquiries on scheduled tours, call Causeways Tours & Transport Service at 853-8728 and 851-7294.



DRAMATIC effects of wind and gravity.

TRAVELBRIEFS

Indulgence

LOCAL residents and *balikbayan* are invited to relax with Manila Pavilion's "Indulgence," a room package that includes a de luxe room, buffet breakfast for two, and a massage and Chinese foot scrub at the Embassy Spa.

The package is available at the hotel on UN Avenue in Manila until May 31.

Call 526-1212 extensions 2333 or 2369 for inquiries.

Safety Award

EMIRATES, flag carrier of the United Arab Emirates, recently gave the MacroAsia-Eurest Catering Services (MECS) a Safety Award and renewed its in-flight catering agreement with the airline for a three-year term starting last month.

MECS is also the caterer of Singapore Airlines, Cathay Pacific and Qantas, and includes Saudia, Northwest Airlines, Air France and China Airlines among its major clients.

It is headed by general manager Tomas Jamtander.

3 in a row

FOR the third year in a row, 357 Boracay was named outstanding beach resort of the year by the National Consumer Affairs Foundation (NCAF).

The resort has an exclusive ferry service to and from Caticlan and Kalibo in Aklan, and has facilities for scuba, parasailing, snorkeling, jet-skiing and windsurfing.

The NCAF yearly awards are aimed at recognizing outstanding Philippine consumer products, services, business utilities and manufacturers.

For vacations at 357 Boracay, call 899-1943 to 44.

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CARLOS Ibay

Blind Fil-Am pianist gives farewell concert

CARLOS "Chuckie" Ibay, the blind Filipino-American music prodigy, will give his last performance in the country for free 3-9 p.m. today, Feb. 29, at the Rizal Park.

Ibay, who has received standing ovations during his month-long concert series in the Philippines, has performed in, among others, the Rachmaninov Center in Russia, the 1994 World Soccer Cup reception for Pelé in Poland, Rio de Janeiro in Brazil and various American cities.

The pianist is the son of Filipinos Romy and Menchie Ibay. He was born three months ahead of schedule and weighed only two pounds. Overexposure to oxygen caused his blindness.

As a pianist, his repertoire includes works by Tchaikovsky, Beethoven, Ravel, Debussy, opera arias and Broadway musicals. He is also a linguist and could sing in Italian, French, Spanish, Russian in a "belcanto" tenor.

Ibay has competed in several international musical contests, winning a number of times, like The Peabody Conservatory Music Festival, the Steinway Society Scholarship Competition, the Merlin-Engel Competition, the German Embassy competition, among others.

His series of concerts in the Philippines was organized by Stella Acedera of the John Paul II International Center for Family Communication, in cooperation with SinagTala.

3-day antique sale starts Mar. 5

THE MANILA Arts and Antiques Center (MAAC) will hold its annual sale at 10 a.m.-6 p.m., March 5-7, at the Philippine National Bank Philtrade Halls 5, 6 and 7, Roxas Blvd., Pasay City.

MAAC, now considered the largest antique mall in the country, has a net floor area of 30,000 square feet shared by 31 merchants. It has the advantage of a large parking area.

According to this year's MAAC president, Marilou Reyes, the stores will have all kinds of antiques, including imported ones from the United States and Europe. But she says local antiques are still the biggest sellers.

Available during the Big Three Day Sale are furniture, jewelry, porcelain, ivory, paintings, religious pieces, excavated items, sculpture, Oriental furniture and more.

ANSWER TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD

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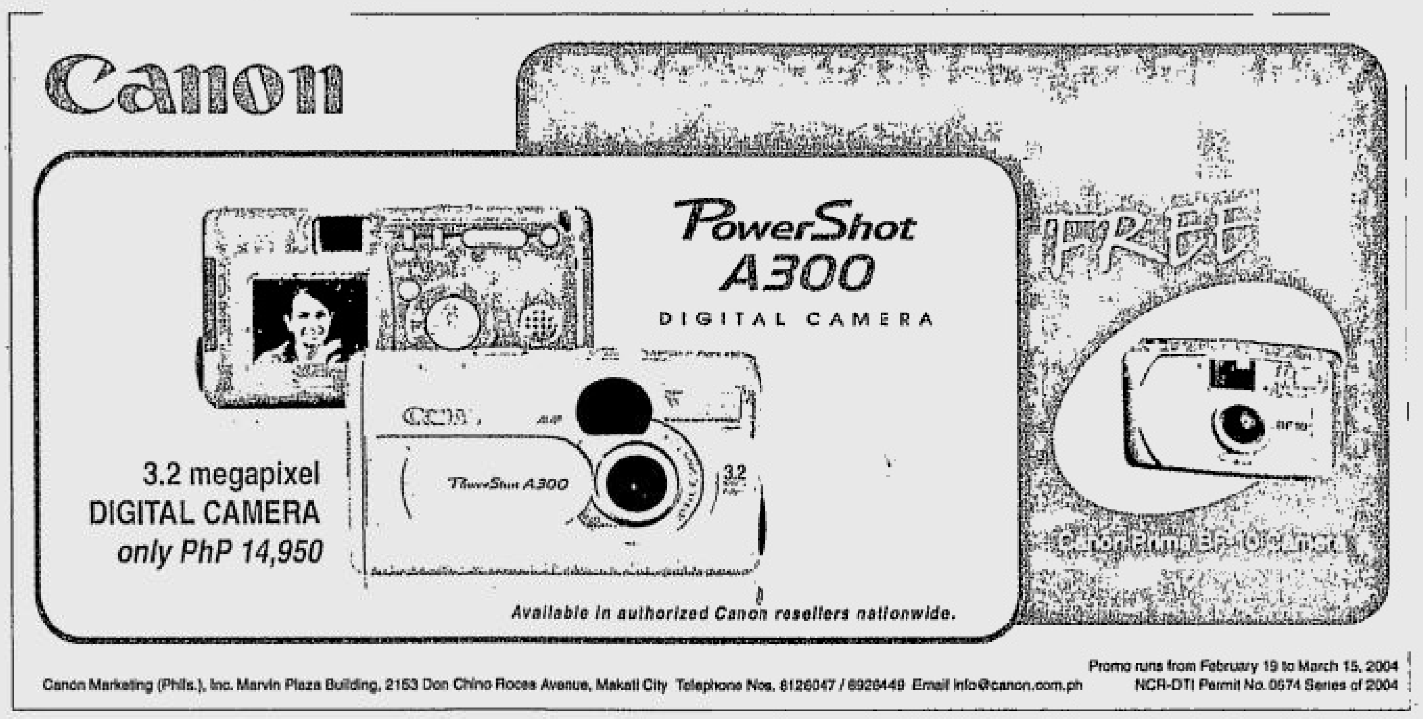
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Rose petals have religious icons

From page E1

of you." By reflex action, the priest took a picture with his Polaroid camera. The image that came out was a young face of the Virgin.

The photo was made into an *estampita* with a prayer given the imprimatur by Bishop Ruben Profugo. To get a copy, write to The Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Mother of the Eucharist and Grace International, 1870 3rd St., Capistrano Subdivision II, Lucena City. Please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope.

For other prayers, write to Bro. Carmelo Cortez, 50 Malac St., San Francisco del Monte, Quezon City, or call 4152679.

There will be a first Saturday Mass on March 6, 12 nn. The public is invited.

The chapel has been donated to the Diocese of Malolos, under the Sto. Niño Parish with Fr. Rodel Ponce as parish priest.

Prayer

"Beloved Mother of the Eucharist and Grace, who was chosen by God to carry in her womb His beloved Son, we thank you for your gifts of roses and oil.

"The Host, which at consecration becomes the body and blood of your Son Jesus, is just as much your flesh and blood. We offer you all our trials and reparation for the sins committed against the Holy Eucharist. Please save us from the calamities besetting our country and we beg you to intercede for us with our Lord Jesus that we may have peace of mind and heart, peace in our family and peace in our country, Amen." (Ask the favor).

Holy Land pilgrimage

El Al and Philippine Airlines invited 11 travel agents from the Philippines to the Holy Land to show it is now safe to go there. A promo trip has been planned to leave on March 18 for only US$1,488. Mamerto Banatin of Adam's Travel said souvenir items are available at 50-percent discount.

The Holy Land was off limits to travelers for three years due to the conflict between Palestine and Israel. Those interested can call Adam's Travel, 5211651 or 5211638.

Happy birthday to Fr. Sim Sunpayco, who turns 75 on March 2. Fr. Sim is a Jesuit missionary in Palau.

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Sunday LIFESTYLE

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SHOW-JUMPING equestrian Vic Barba mounted on Boytoy

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HOT babes at the Polo field. Bianca Araneta and Cindy Kurleto

HORSE lovers all. Ana Sison, birthday girl Malu Gamboa, Chinky Shah and Anton Huang

GORGEOUS show biz couple Liezl and Albert Martinez

EXCELLENT jump by Jeena Lopez on Othello, taken by sister Jingjing Turralba

My so-called life as ballerina and equestrienne

TESSA!

Tessa Prieto-Valdes

AS A CHILD, I never took ballet lessons because my body, which unfortunately has not changed much, was not the ballerina type with long, lean and lithe limbs. My ballet-challenged genes have been passed to my daughter, so she prefers jazz dancing at Steps Dance Studio more than ballet.

Lately, I have been so hooked on the Flamenco classes taught by my belly-dancing guru, **Ginajane Grey**. Although "belly" is still tops on my list, especially with the costumes and accessories, Flamenco has the emotion and attitude that give the dance its fiery name.

I actually was introduced to both by show-biz princess **Lucy Torres Gomez**. I thought that maybe if I started classes with her, my hair might become as luscious and my face as radiant as hers. But, out of reach, literally, is the fact that I still have to acquire her height.

Not only is Lucy a marvel to see but she is quite graceful as well. God sometimes blesses others too much! And to think her talent has been passed to her by the previous generation. Her mother, **Julie Torres**, can really move her hips, much like a true bohemian gypsy.

Of course, what I lack in height and grace, I more than make up for in outfits. I don so many accessories it's like shaking with weights on and so the class turns out to be a complete workout. Like I always say about beauty, the pain is only for the vain.

Even my party clothes now have been influenced by this Middle Eastern dance. At the launch of Greenbelt 4, Ayala's most impressive and luxurious mall, I came in an Indian-inspired sari with my belly-dancing accessories. My necklace was an Issey Miyake original given to me by Gift Gate grand dame, **Virgie Ramos**.

Metallic blending

Talented Cebu designer **Oj Hofer** had created that metallic, organdy sari, which blended so well with the beautiful outdoor set-up. Red roses were scattered around the garden fronting the mall. *Sampaguita*, in long strands hanging from trees, were just lovely touches

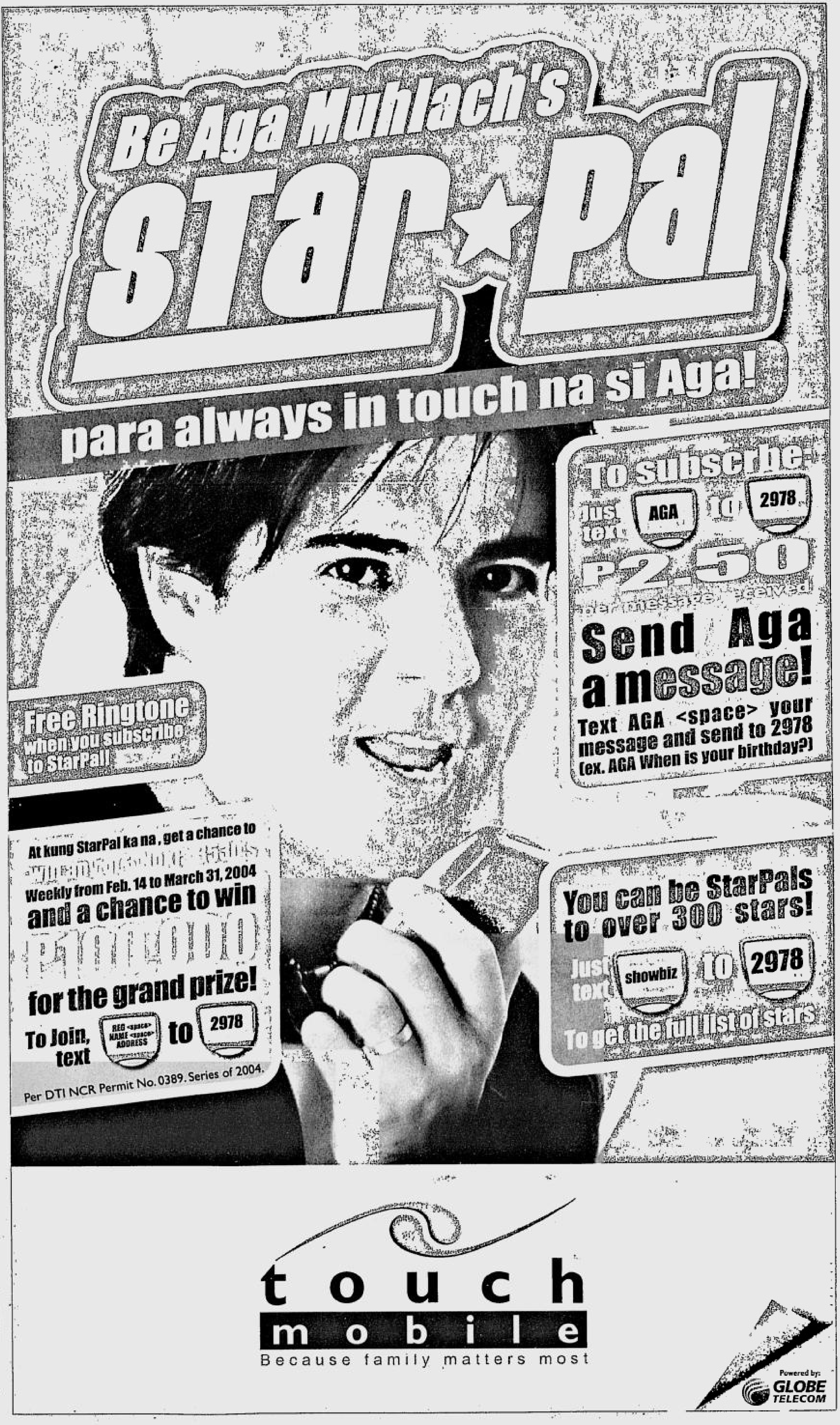
MY SO-CALLED/ F3

CHAMPION riders. Mikee Jaworski watches as Apa Ongpin awards Vic Barba.

SUPPORTIVE friends. Toti Turralba, Tetet Lara and Jingjing Turralba

KAMISETA'S young and progressive owners, Cris and Gunn Roque

PROUD parents Judy and Dickson Co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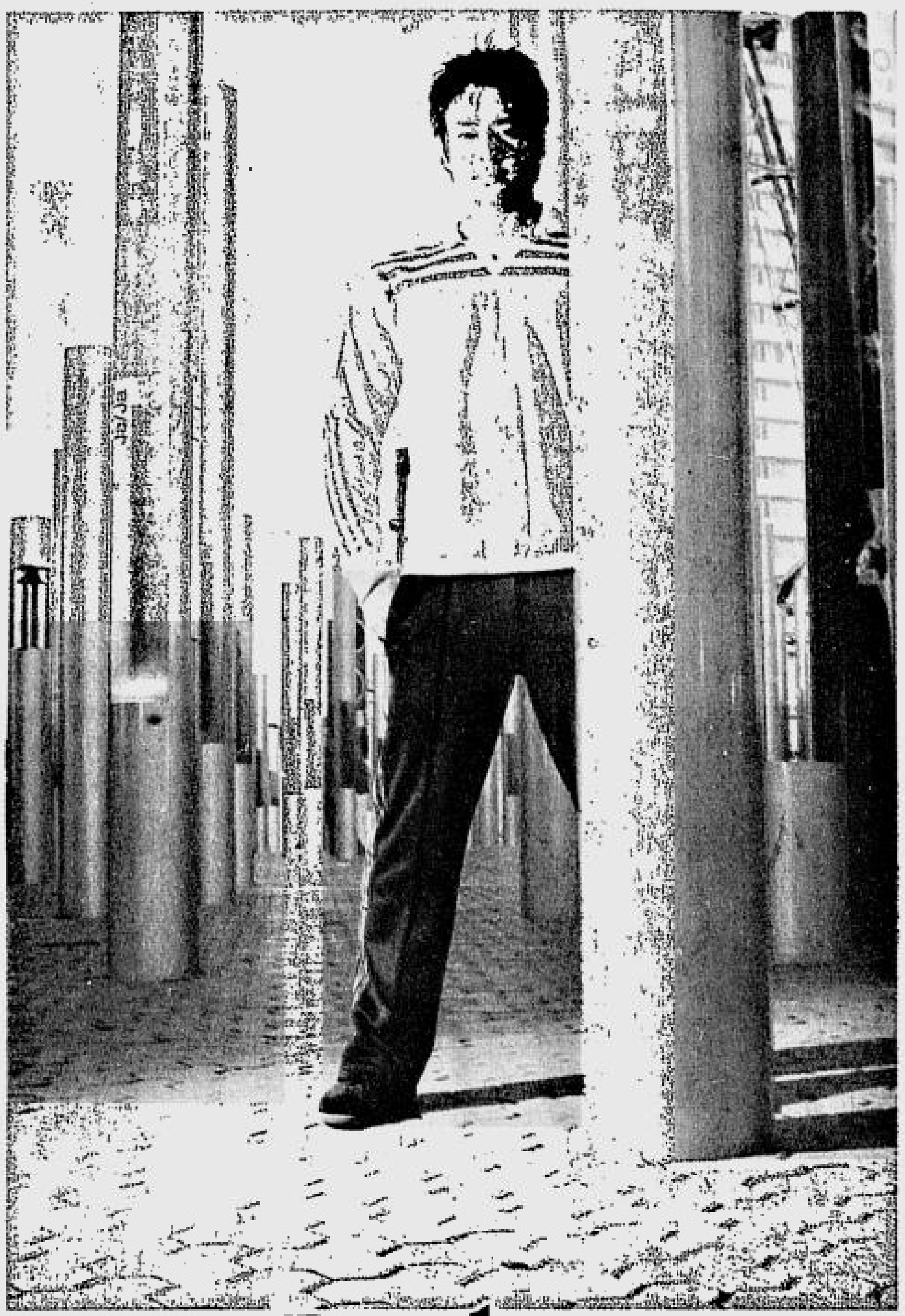
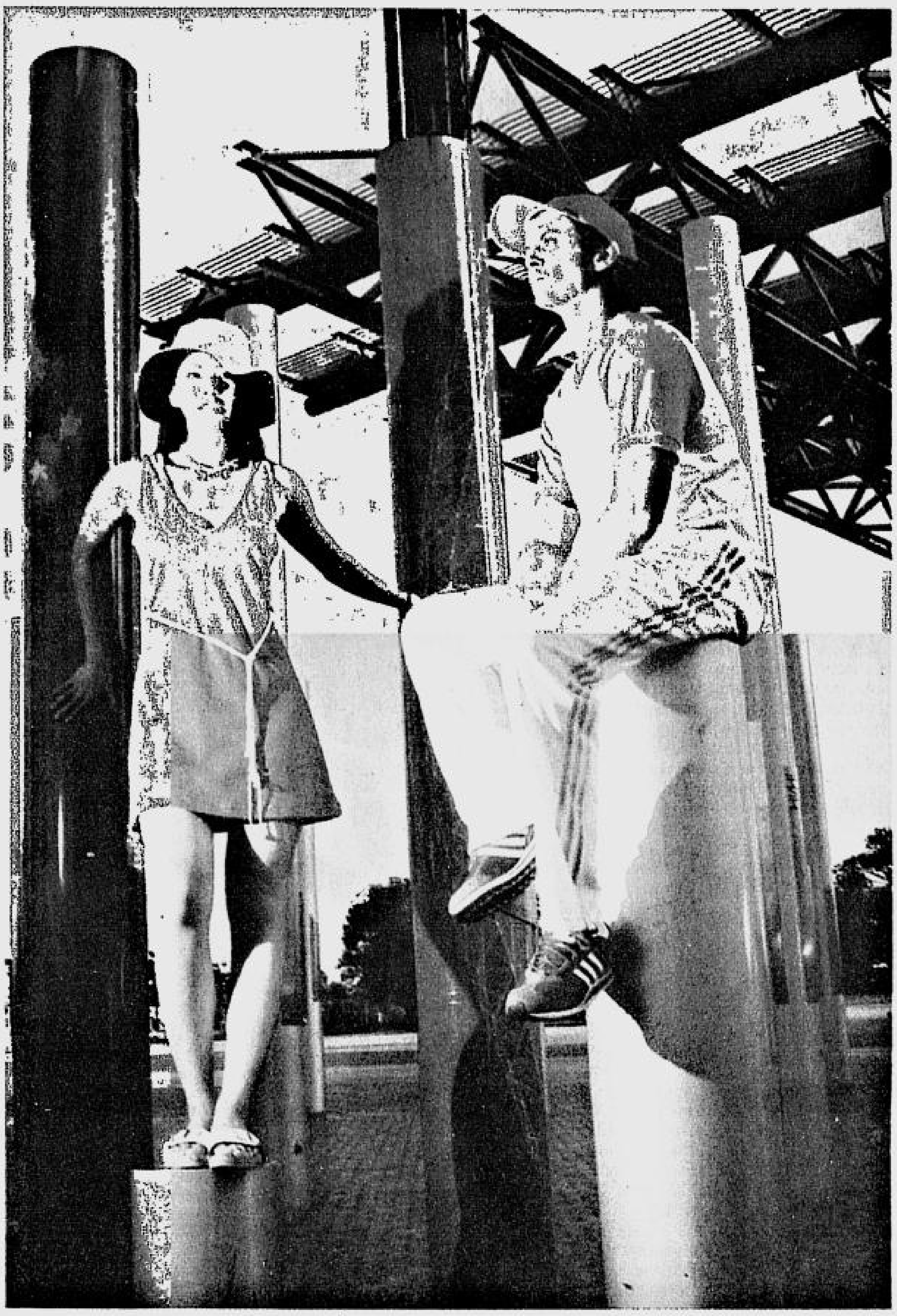


RECORD BREAKER. Brent Javier in black Adidas Samba 2 shoes, yellow and green striped Adidas Historic Linear long-sleeve shirt, and black and yellow striped Adidas Winner track pants



TEAM SPIRIT. Bianca Valerio wears an Adidas royal blue Cocobella dress while Mikee Carreon is in blue Adidas Zetroc 4 shoes, blue and white Adidas Breeze tee, and white and gold striped Adidas Winner track pants. Head gear from Adidas accessories

Peak sports gear lights up the Olympics

Photos by Xander Angeles

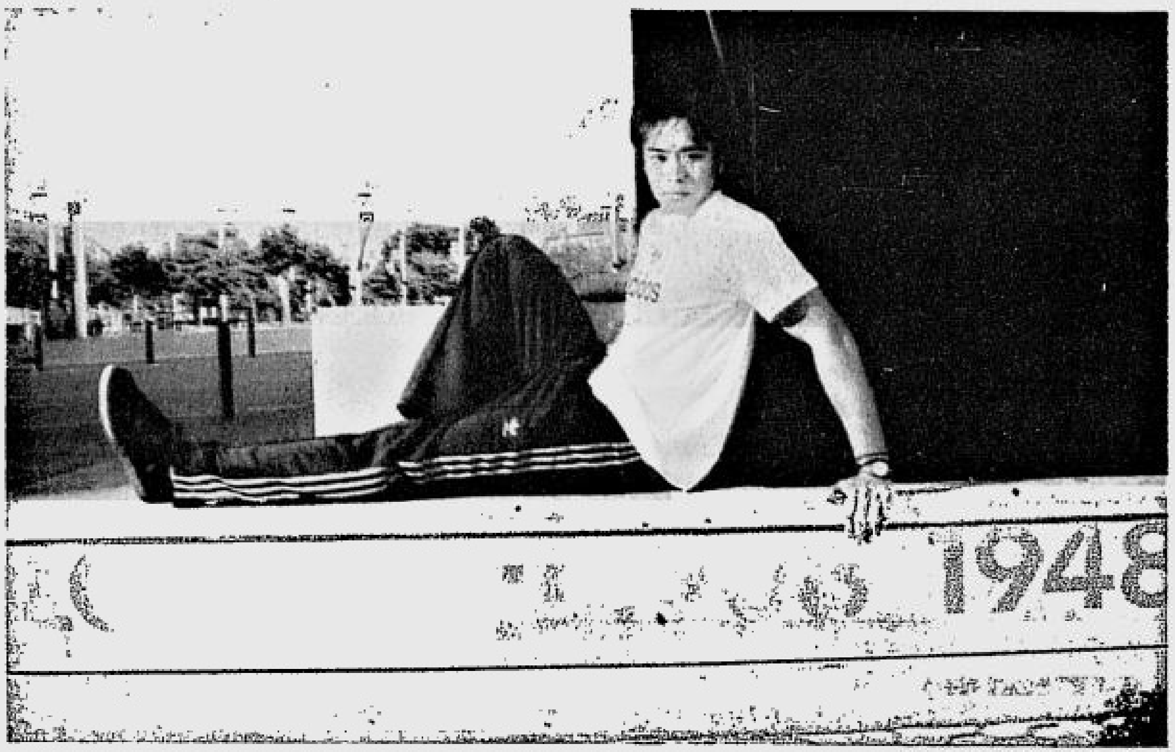
NOWHERE else does eternal sport brand Adidas feel more at home than on playing fields. From the tracks to the courts, from the ring to the water, Adidas is dedicated to performance wear that works as hard as the athletes do.

Be it sports clothes that wick away moisture from the body, keeping athletes comfortable and at ideal body temperature levels, or sports shoes that offer support and ventilation, Adidas is always at the peak of performance.

Adidas and people wearing Adidas fit right in at the Sydney Olympic Park at Homebush Bay, Sydney, Australia. Built for the 2000 Olympics, the stadium cost about $400 million and can seat up to 80,000 spectators (during the Olympics itself, the capacity was at 110,000 due to temporary grandstand provisions).

This year, expect Adidas in Athens where it is the chosen outfitter for the Olympics' torch bearers. Let the games begin!

OLYMPIC DREAMS. Tessa Prieto-Valdes in yellow Adidas Clima Response shoes, fuchsia and gray Adidas Performance top and pants, Adidas visor and Adidas Digi IV watch



FOREVER SPORT. Adidas Black Samba 2 shoes, Adidas Climacool watch, white Adidas Original Linear Flock tee and Adidas Winner track pants on Brent

Building the Games
adidas

STANDING TALL. Mikee in Adidas baseball cap, brown Adidas Original Linear Flock T-shirt, Adidas Zetroc 4 shoes, and white and green striped Adidas Australia sweatpants

MODELS: MIKEE CARREON, BRENT JAVIER, TESSA PRIETO-VALDES AND BIANCA VALERIO
SHOT ON LOCATION AT THE OLYMPIC PARK, HOMEBUSH BAY, SYDNEY

CEBU talents bloom around the Sea Princess. Belgian designer Michiel Ansingh, dynamic duo Jun Escario and Oj Hofer, and Charlie Manatad

SHELL Canvas sisters Bonnie Tan and Berlin Ching

LONG-TIME friends J. Anton Mendoza and PDI's Donnie Ramirez

FASHION movers Sari Yap and Jenni Epperson

FAB bag designer Joanne Lhuillier

STYLISH chefs. Swiss-educated Bernie Olivares and party caterer Debbie Enriquez

BELLY dancing goddesses of teacher Ginajane Grey (standing in white) with Daphne Oseña during the taping of "F"

My so-called life as ballerina and equestrienne

From page F1

to the main stage area where a full orchestra played throughout the night. Philippine Tatler editor **Anton San Diego** coordinated with the Ayala group for an unforgettable evening, highlighted by my fave diva, **Lani Misalucha.**

My spunky friend, **Leah Puyat**, was also wearing an outfit by a Cebu designer. Her body-hugging, sheer top with shredded lace and fabric was made by Oj's designer buddy, **Jun Escario.** It was too ironic to have both of us wear their creations because both Oj and Jun just opened their atelier in LPL Towers on Legaspi Street.

At the opening of their Manila shop, quaint but packed with creative designs, the exceptional dynamic duo hosted an intimate party with the hip and fashionable urbanites. Their feminine, subtle and sexy outfits were practically sold out that evening.

That evening, I was so glad to have met the creator of the Miss Cebu crown, where I had the good fortune to be one of the judges for earlier this year. **Michiel Ansingh**, a Belgian designer who loves Cebu so much that he has relocated there.

Ansigh brought some of his collections of bracelets and necklaces. You will have to wait for the next shipment though. I went berserk!

Going back to my childhood, since I was not ballerina material, my mom enrolled me for horseback-riding lessons. The now defunct D'Rossa Riding School was just around the corner from our house so we used to hang around the stables and learned to even clean the horses' hooves.

Not my fancy

I got as far as dressage, the art of making the horse dance by carrying out a series of precise controlled movements in response to signals from the rider. Show jumping was not my fancy because I was too scared and felt that the horse would just throw me out to sea.

Late last year, I was part of a race involving a horse rider and a car. My partner on horseback would go through a set of jumps and run to the Volvo I was maneuvering through a set of obstacles. At least, that's the gist of the rules I recall.

My poor partner, **Chato Cruz**, was flummoxed because not only was I a reckless driver, I also couldn't really move with a tiara on top of my wig. All that is, of course, just my excuse because we finished dead last. But even if we didn't win, place or show, we did have a great time. I didn't mind losing, especially to **Angelo Barretto**, a professional race car driver who competes abroad in the big league races like the Le Mans in France but is better known locally as the face in the PLDT billboards.

Another horse show event, of more recent vintage, was the Kamiseta Cup Show Jumping Championships. The well-attended event was so successful that the young brilliant owners, **Gunn** and **Cris Roque**, have decided to make this an annual show.

Elegant riding jackets, smartly tailored with boots covering the lower half of the riders' jodhpurs, were the coolest look that afternoon. I decided to go hip western with my cowboy hat with feathers and my Marlboro eagle buckle belt.

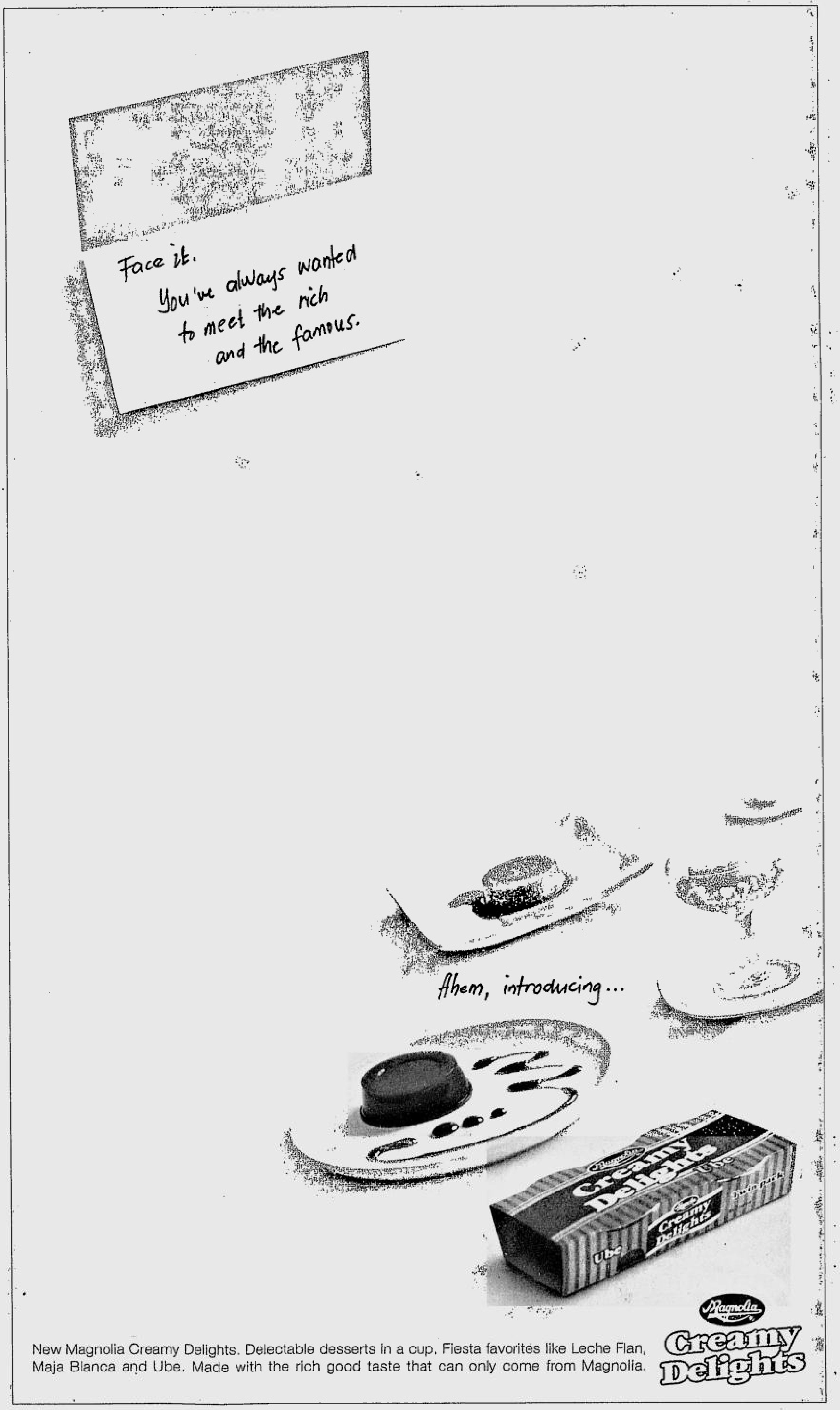
The show's finale was a six-bar exhibition by gold medalists **Mikee Cojuangco-Jaworski** and **Toni Leviste**, done in synchronized swimming fashion, except aboard Thoroughbreds. They were such professionals that even if it was already sunset and getting dark, they were able to command their respective horses to complete the jumps with aplomb.

Watching the riders go through the course made me think of the usual what ifs—if I had taken my childhood horseback-riding lessons more seriously, could I also have made it to the Olympics? Could I possibly be writing this column as the Unicorn Princess rather than the Sea Princess?

E-mail me at seaprincess@inquirer.com.ph

OLYMPIC family. Dodot Jaworski and cute Rafael

MOM and daughter tandem. Marissa and Bea Rocha



New Magnolia Creamy Delights. Delectable desserts in a cup. Fiesta favorites like Leche Flan, Maja Blanca and Ube. Made with the rich good taste that can only come from Magnolia.

COURTYARDS AT PORTOFINO BY BRITTANY
UNIQUE ITALIAN-INSPIRED LIVING

Brittany Corporation's Portofino, the decidedly upscale, Italian-themed, residential and commercial enclave just a few minutes away from the Alabang Town Center, is now building on the success of its first four phases called Portofino Heights, with the next phase of the development offering courtyard residences.

With all lots in Portofino Heights sold out in less than a year, the courtyard units will enable limited numbers of other future residents to partake of a unique way of life that only a thoroughly planned, high-end community from Brittany can offer. The various phases of Portofino, located along the recently opened Las Piñas-Muntinlupa-Laguna-Cavite Link Road, is envisioned for families whose members are citizens of the world, their homes eloquent testimony to an elegant yet comfortable lifestyle.

Portofino by Brittany offers a limited number of Courtyard homes, laid out in a unique design in which each home features a courtyard within a courtyard, a first among residential communities in the country.

Portofino (Italian for "fine gateway") is one of four ongoing developments by Brittany Corporation, the pioneer in envisioning and building high-end, master-planned communities, each inspired by a distinctive theme. Living in Portofino will be evocative of the happy life in sunny Italy, where it is celebrated with exuberance every day. The original Portofino, a lovely seaport town in southern Italy with rolling, hilly terrain, a river and much greenery, is Brittany's inspiration for the multi-phase development project.

Portofino's courtyard homes are a one-of-a-kind application of the courtyard-within-a-courtyard concept, an ingenious design exclusive to Brittany. The concept involves all models each having its own courtyard, while being part of a cluster of homes configured within a bigger courtyard.

Each courtyard home, in the typical Italian fashion of such residences, revolves around a courtyard in the center, with terra cotta and stucco as well as pronounced arches and layers that bring on warm, cheerful feelings. The main foyer allows access to the rooms on the ground level through the courtyard. The windows gracing the balconies permit light from outdoors to enter, while the open space in the center of each villa affords natural cooling against tropical temperatures. Arcades supported by columns, fountains and gardens will accent the soothing view of each courtyard from the halls within. The courtyard space of each home will be perfect for entertaining company or as a private area where family members may simply relax together. Some of the courtyard residences will feature charming *casitas*, rooms on the ground level ideal for staying guests.

Reminiscent of an Italian setting, the Portofino courtyard residences will boast streets of cobblestone and adornments consisting of statues, fountains and benches.

In keeping with Brittany's faithfully observed architectural and other development guidelines to maintain the integrity of each community's theme, the courtyard units at Portofino, clustered in cozy communities, are available in four models. Named after European masters, the models are the Cezanne (floor area 193 sq. m.), the Monet (floor area 233 sq. m.), the Raphael (floor area 247 sq. m.), and the Rembrandt (floor area 260 sq. m.). Selling prices range from Php 7.8 million to Php15 million for home and lot packages.

While adhering to architectural guidelines, Brittany is careful about striking a balance, not impinging on the personal preferences and tastes of residents. Like other Brittany offerings, the courtyard residences of Portofino are meant for families with discerning taste.

Each Courtyard home at Brittany's Portofino is highlighted by an inner courtyard, maximizing use of space as well as natural light and ventilation. The design is inspired by Italian homes that are structured around a courtyard, "bring the outdoors, indoors" with arcades, benches and fountains.

Each residence will be a jewel, magnificently designed and built, giving the best that life can offer to its happy owner, the lord of his very own manor and proud possessor of a fine home, indeed!

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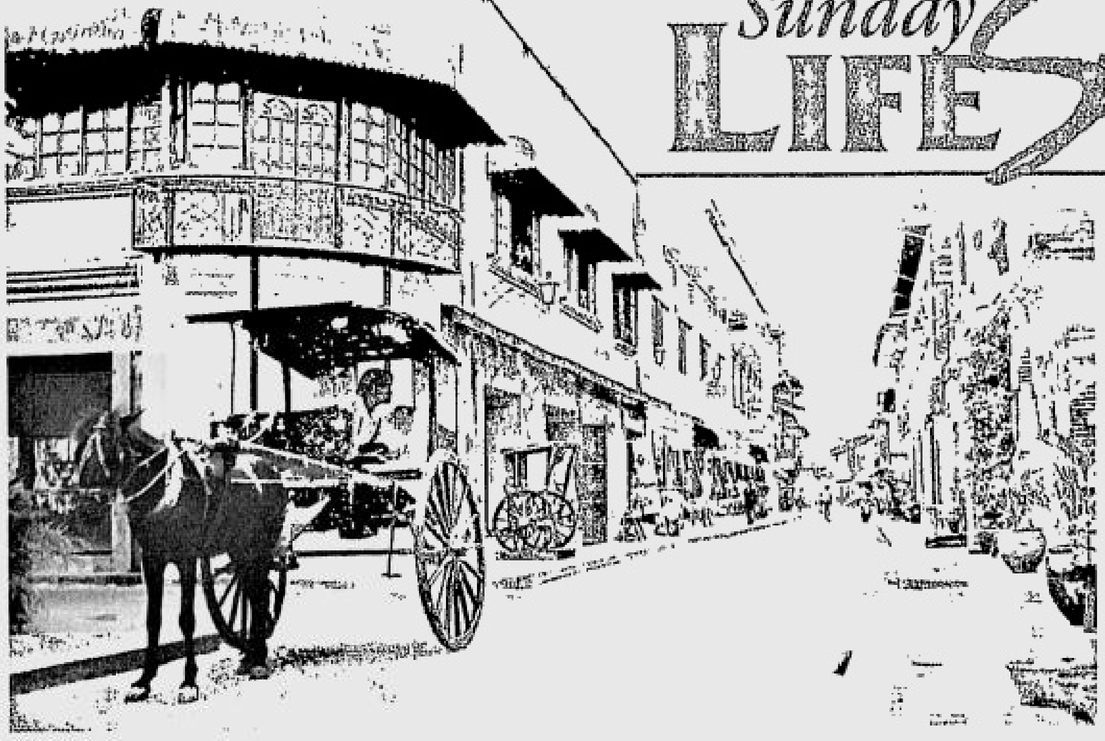
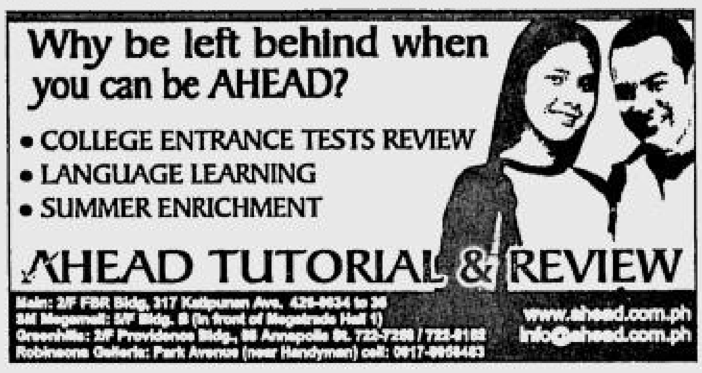


Vigan, notably its old Mestizo district, is recognized as the best example of a European colonial trading borough in the East

LIFESTYLE GOES TO VIGAN (PART 1)

History is alive in this town

Story on page G2



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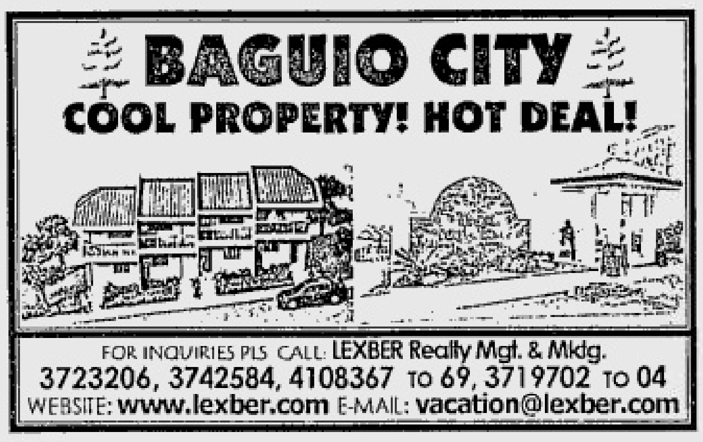

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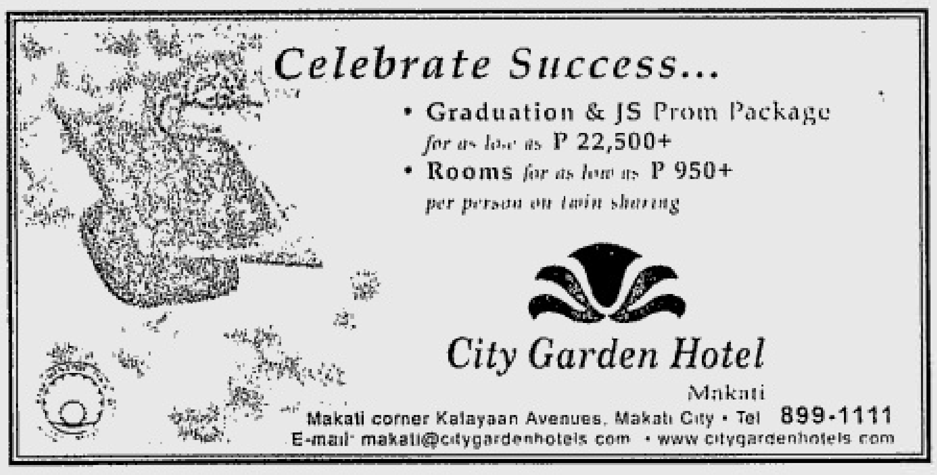

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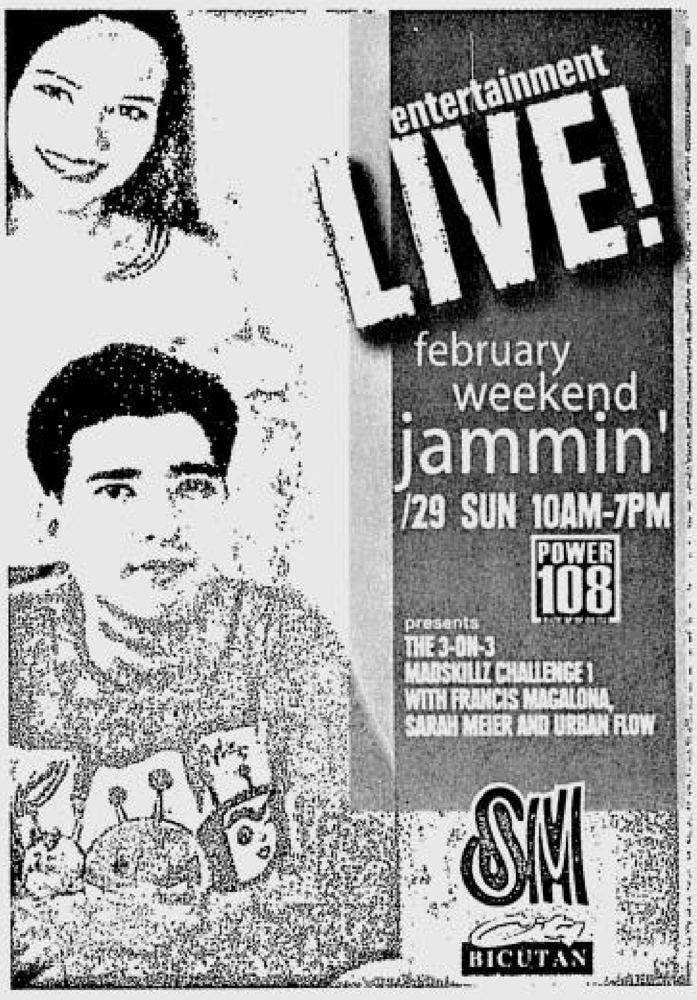

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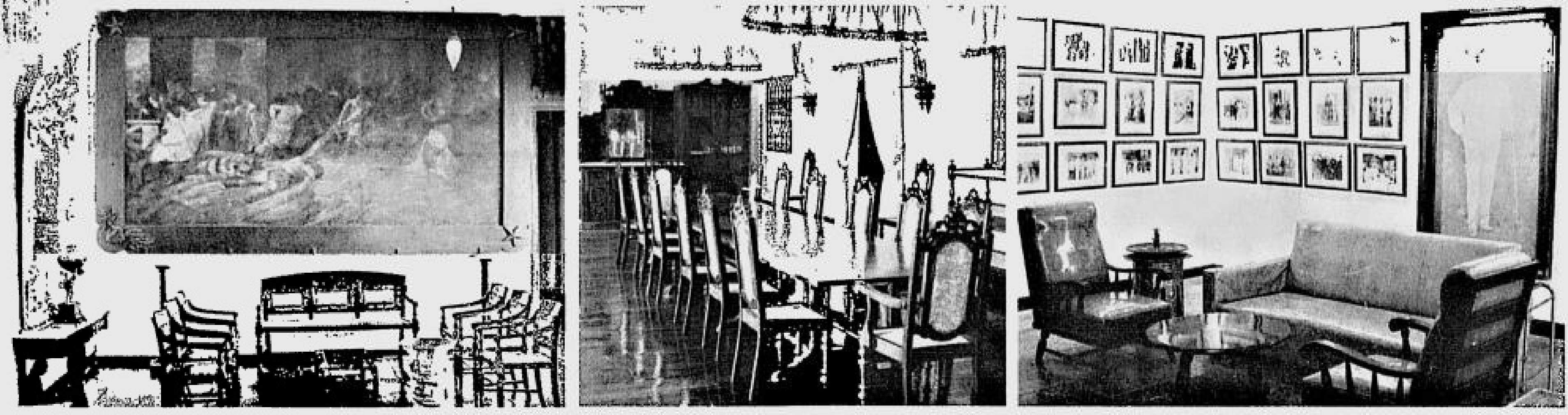
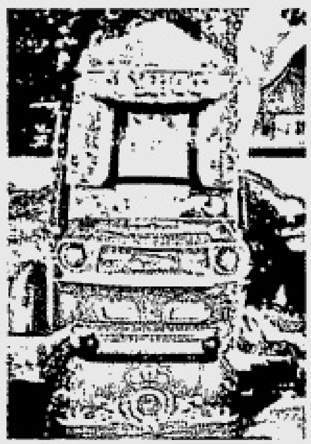


SYQUIA mansion's treasures: (L-R) Smaller version of Juan Luna's "Spoliarium," done by a student of Luna's, in the sala mayor; Chinese and European porcelain and period "ceiling fans" in the dining room; Quirino memorabilia on the ground floor



TRICYCLES are now as much a presence on the streets of Vigan as the *calesa.*

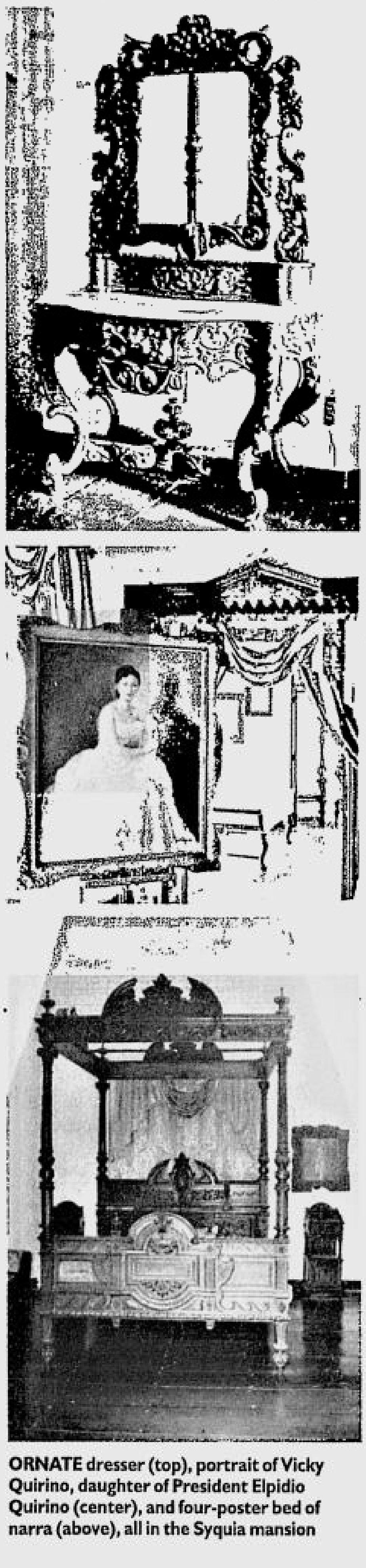
History is alive in this town

Text by Rowena C. Burgos
Photos by Chito Vecina

THE OLD Mestizo District of Vigan, Ilocos Sur, is a "living museum" of Filipino-Spanish-Chinese architectural heritage. Eighteenth- and 19th-century edifices and houses, most of them well-preserved and still very much inhabited, dot this area, notably Calle Crisologo.

This was the commercial district of Vigan during the Spanish and early American periods. Most of the ancestral houses were built from the profits of the Manila-Acapulco galleon trade and, later, the tobacco monopoly.

Winona Remedios Santos, officer in charge of the Ilocos Sur Tourism Information Center, says many of the Chinese who came to the Philippines before the 20th century stayed only for short periods, before returning to China.



ORNATE dresser (top), portrait of Vicky Quirino, daughter of President Elpidio Quirino (center), and four-poster bed of narra (above), all in the Syquia mansion

But while in the Philippines, some of these Chinese *mestizos* married *indio* women and established dual roots, as it were. In the 19th century, with increased commerce, they became powerful, economically and politically. They settled in an area called "Kasanglayan"—"place of the Chinese" in Ilocano—which is now the Mestizo District.

The brick dwellings with red-tile roofs, massive doors, broad verandahs, grand staircases, arched doorways, high ceilings and sliding *capiz* windows along this street served a double purpose.

The ground floor was occupied by a shop that sold dry goods, while the second floor functioned as the family residence.

"The residential houses are still privately owned, while the ground floors are [now] rented by tourist shops. Other homes have been turned into inns and museums," Santos says.

The souvenir shops today showcase furniture, both reproductions and genuine antiques, samples of authentic Ilocano weaving in different kinds of *abel* cloth, and home and garden accessories.

"The flourishing local tourism industry has been brought about by the inclusion of Vigan in the Unesco World Heritage List of Sites and Monuments and its recent conversion into a component city," says Santos.

It was on Dec. 2, 1999 that the historic town of Vigan was cited in the World Heritage List for being the best example of a European colonial trading town in the East.

The town was converted into a city on Jan. 22, 2001, through a plebiscite that allowed Biguenos to reaffirm the Congressional Act validating and recognizing the Royal Decree issued by King Fernando VI of Spain in 1757, which elevated the status of Vigan to that of a city named Ciudad Fernandina.

Conservation efforts

Being included on the prestigious Unesco World Heritage List of Sites and Monuments entails great responsibility on the part of Vigan's residents.

The local government, the National Museum, University of Northern Philippines, various nongovernment organizations and local homeowners have banded together to help preserve the city's historic centuries-old structures.

Local officials, headed by city Mayor Eva Marie Medina, have created the Multi-sectoral Vigan Conservation Council, which evaluates and reviews plans for the repair, renovation, restoration and/or construction of structures in the core and buffer zones of the heritage district. The council also provides guidelines on the management and preservation of ancestral houses.

"Structures must follow the Vigan Master Development Plan, which is in accordance with the old look of Vigan since it was founded in 1572," Santos says.

The town plan is representative of the style the Spanish colonizers had designed and established in the 18th century, which conformed to the Law of the Indies which regulated the layout, street patterns and open spaces of all new settlements during the Spanish era. This meant a uniform urban design of grid-like street patterns radiating from a central plaza.

Famous ancestral homes

Ancestral house markers can be seen on some edifices along Calle Crisologo. These markers alert visitors to the structures' historical significance, and serve as constant reminders to the owners that they are custodians of a precious cultural legacy.

Examples of these old family mansions are the Syquia Mansion, Quema House and Leona Florentino House.

The Syquia Mansion belongs to one of the most prominent and wealthiest Chinese-Filipino families in Vigan. Built in 1830, the three-story house was initially owned by the Angco family. When Gregorio Syquia married Estefania Angco, Don Justo Angco gave it to the couple as a wedding present. From then on, it became known as the Syquia Mansion.

The structure has a floor area of 2,000 sq m, with seven bedrooms. Now it houses 19th-century furnishings and the memorabilia of President Elpidio Quirino.

"The Quirino memorabilia is housed in the mansion because the wife of the president, Alicia, was a Syquia. They lived here when he was a congressman," relates Eddie Quirino, grandson of the former president.

The mansion is still owned by the Syquias, but they no longer use the old part of the house, which has been opened for public viewing.

"It's only open upon the request of the tourism office or mayor's office," says Quirino. "[But] eventually, this will be managed as a proper museum, complete with a curator and tour guides."

Interiors

The layout and partitioning of these Vigan houses offer a glimpse into the needs and activities of the well-off period households that occupied them.

The main door was wide enough to accommodate the width of a horse-drawn carriage and big enough for a *carroza* (carriage mounted with religious image) to be brought into a hall on the ground floor.

Horses for carriages were tethered in the horse stable at the rear of the ground floor. Shops and storage rooms took up the rest of the space on the ground floor.

The grand staircase has two sections: a few steps to a landing where ordinary visitors were received, then a long flight of stairs to the second floor, which led to the antesala.

This was where more important visitors were received, and where informal entertaining was held. The formal living room was used for family gatherings and important occasions.

As in the pre-colonial *bahay kubo*, families slept together in two or three large bedrooms, which were either located at the end of the living room or separated by a wall partition from the dining room.

Adjacent to the dining room was the kitchen, and adjacent to the kitchen was the toilet. When sanitary toilets were introduced in the 1800s, a separate structure was built a few steps from the kitchen.

The open terrace was an extension at the back of the second floor, where residents and guests often gathered to cool off.

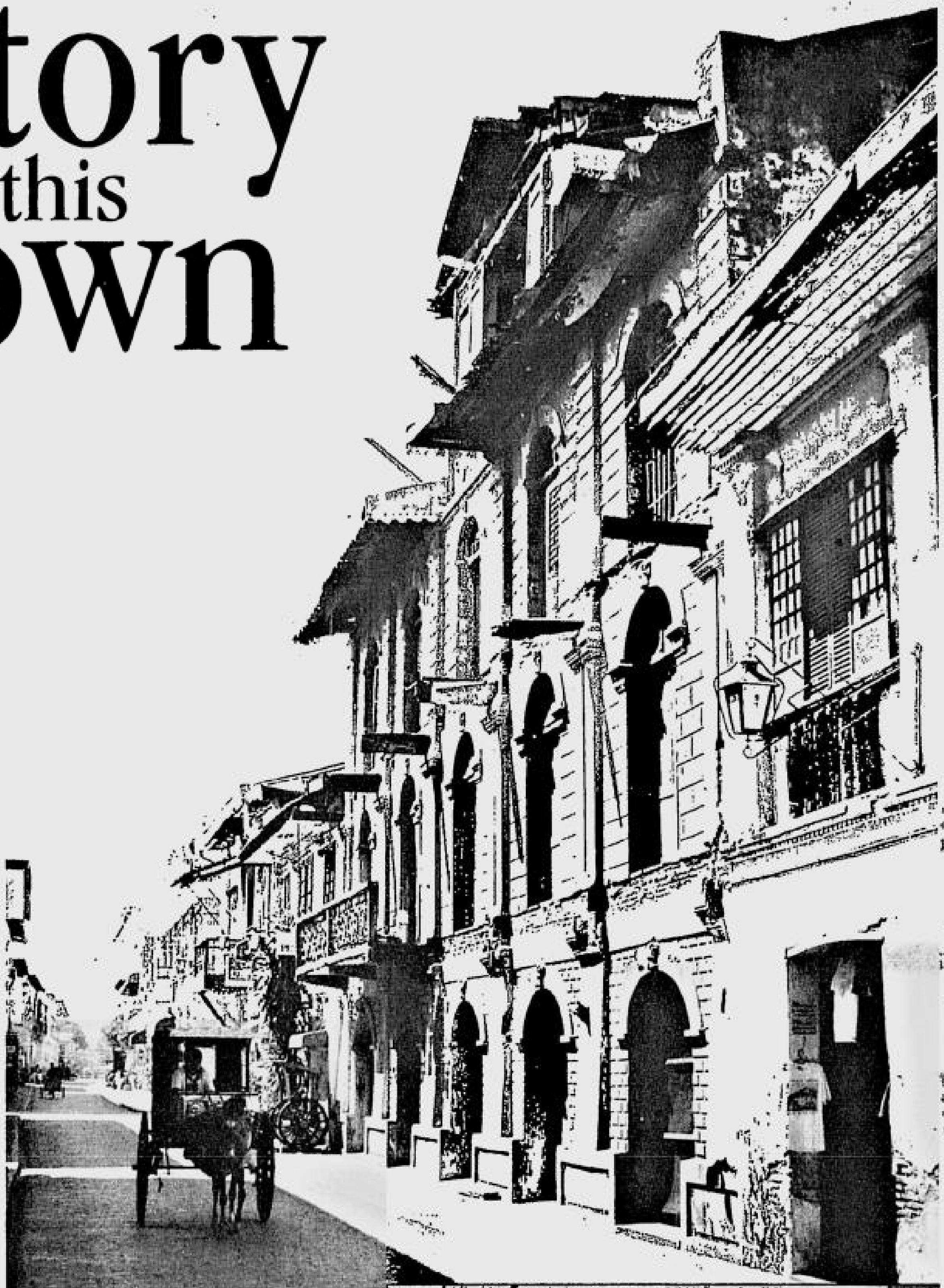
The large windows had an inner pair of sliding windows made of *capiz* shells and an outside pair of sliding wooden storm shutters.

Below these windows were smaller windows of sliding wooden panels protected by wooden balusters. Tiled roofs and eaves extended into the street to prevent rain from entering the house. *Callados* decorated the top portion of the interior wooden partitions.

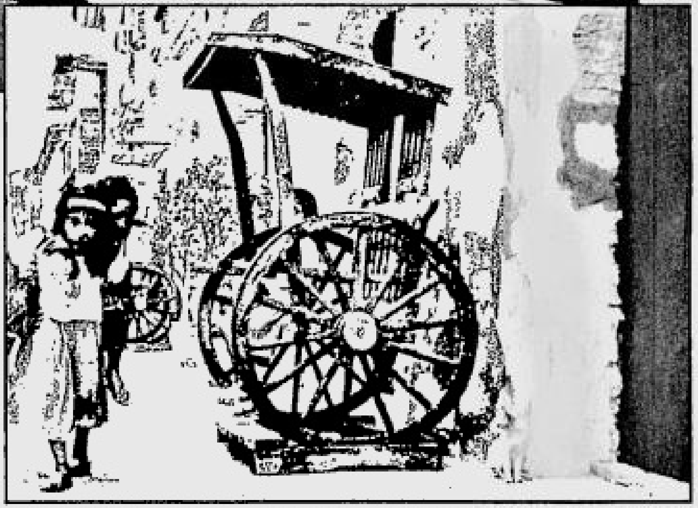
All these details can still be seen in the Syquia Mansion, and a tour of this old house is a virtual time travel to a distant, more gracious past.

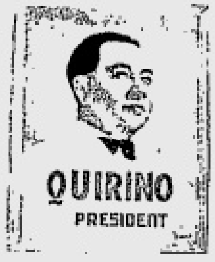
The Vigan tour of INQUIRER Lifestyle was sponsored by Globe Telecom.

E-mail the author at rburgos@inquirer.coni.ph

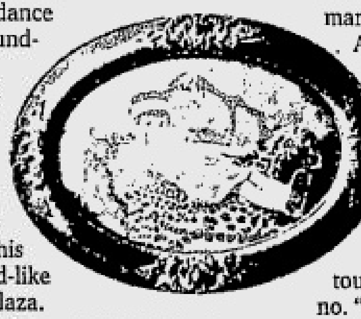


THE MESTIZO District, notably Calle Crisologo, is replete with ancestral houses in varying Spanish, Chinese and Mexican architectural styles.

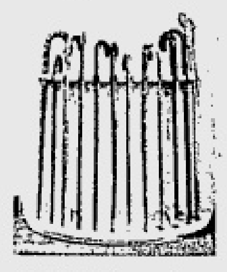




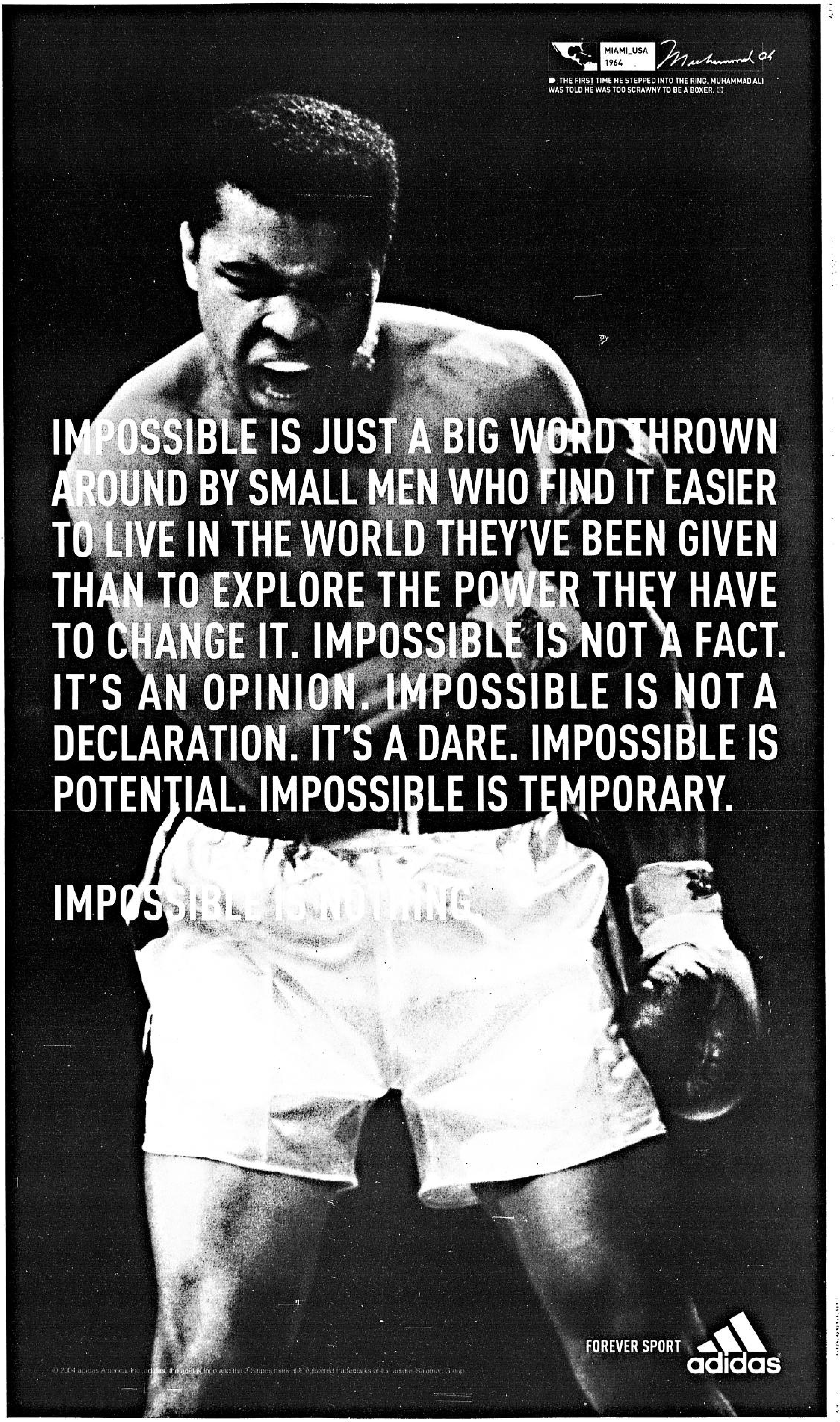
1953 CAMPAIGN poster of Elpidio Quirino



PAINTING of Margarita, Eddie Quirino's grand aunt, who was killed by the Japanese during Liberation



ANTIQUE wooden canes displayed near the main door of the Syquia Mansion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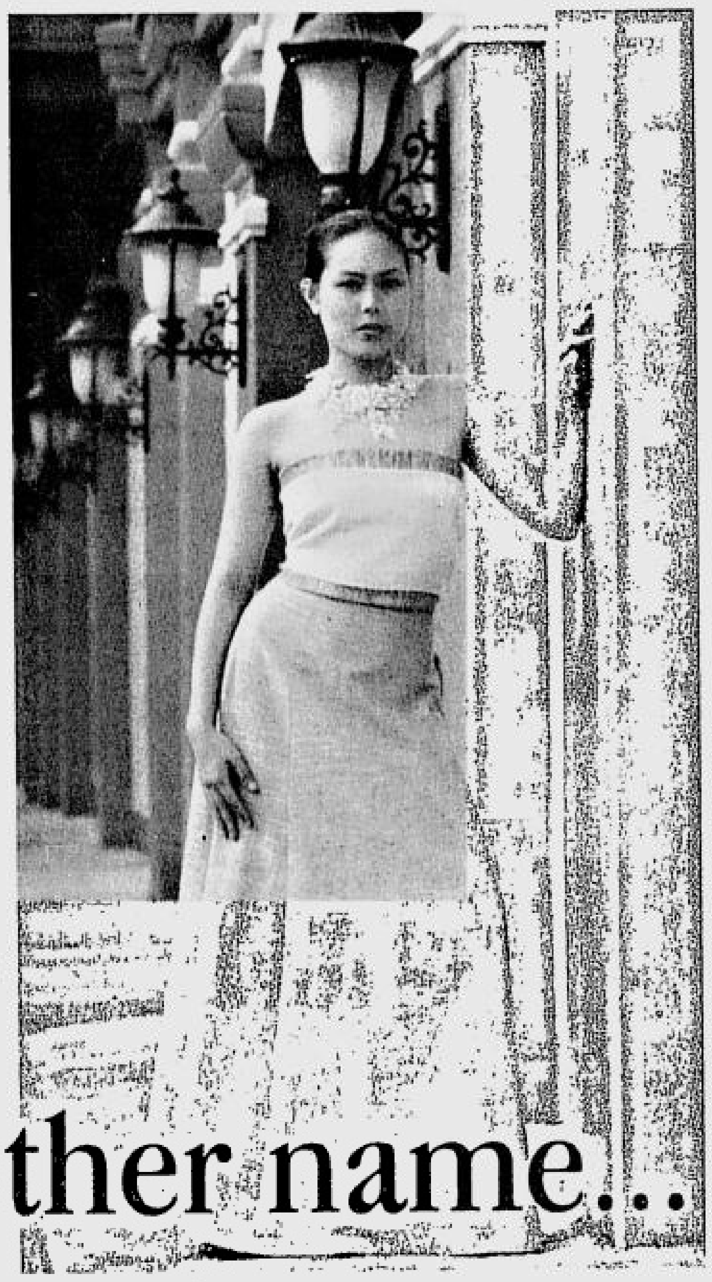
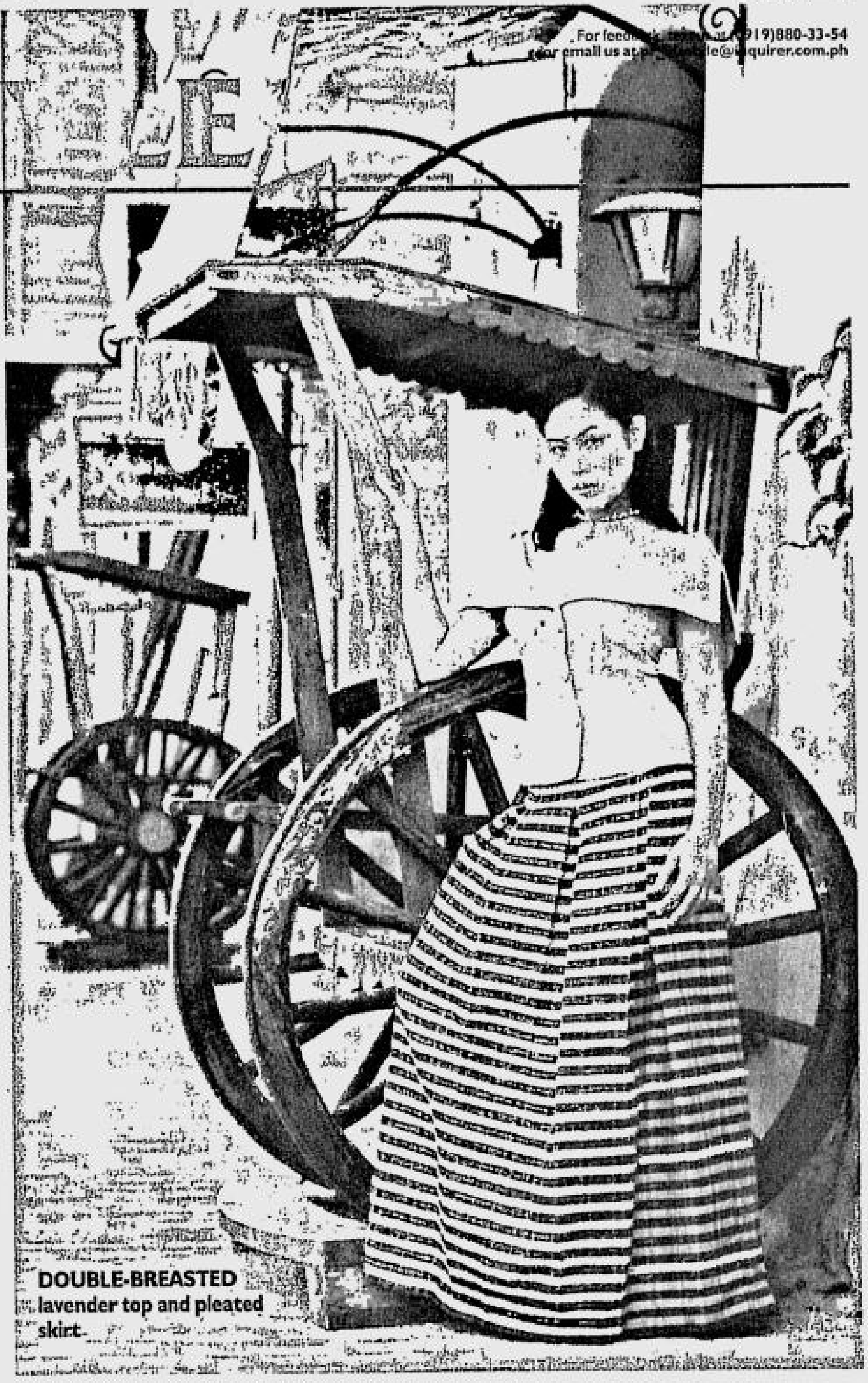


PATCH wears a pastel-striped coat (above). At right, a gold-flecked mint-green skirt, and purple and pink scarves worn as tube top, at the Mestizo District



DOUBLE-BREASTED lavender top and pleated skirt.

Text by Cheche V. Moral
Photos by Chito Vecina

Ilocos Sur's famous handloom fabric is getting a quality and identity makeover

THE INDIGENOUS fabric formerly known as *abel Iloko* is taking a new name. Well, the one from Ilocos Sur, at least.

Along with the province's efforts to upgrade the quality of the handloom fabric is the call for a new label to distinguish it from all the rest, says Winona Remedios S. Santos, officer in charge of the Ilocos Sur Tourism Information Center. Thus, fabrics made in the province are now called *abel* Ilocos Sur.

"*Abel* is a regional fabric," explains Santos. "There are different varieties from each province [in Region 1]. "What we're making now is the upgraded fabric, so we're pushing for our own identity."

According to Santos, the thread normally used in *abel* are surpluses of garment factories in Pasig.

"The tendency [of the fabric] is to shrink or the color bleeds... Now we're requiring a continuous supply of Class A threads," she explains.

The provincial government is aiming for "repeat business," which was unfeasible in the past given that weavers depended on the inadequate supply of surplus materials.

In the new scheme, weavers have a color chart that enables them to provide fashion designers with swatches for reorders.

But weavers, including Cristy Atinaja, who is the biggest *abel* producer in Barangay Camanggaan, Vigan City, complain of the lack of bigger capital and access to markets. So with the new name comes bullish efforts on the part of the local government to push for widespread use of the handwoven fabric.

"Recently we have taken to joining wedding fairs and fashion shows in Metro Manila to promote *abel*," says Santos.

Tricky material

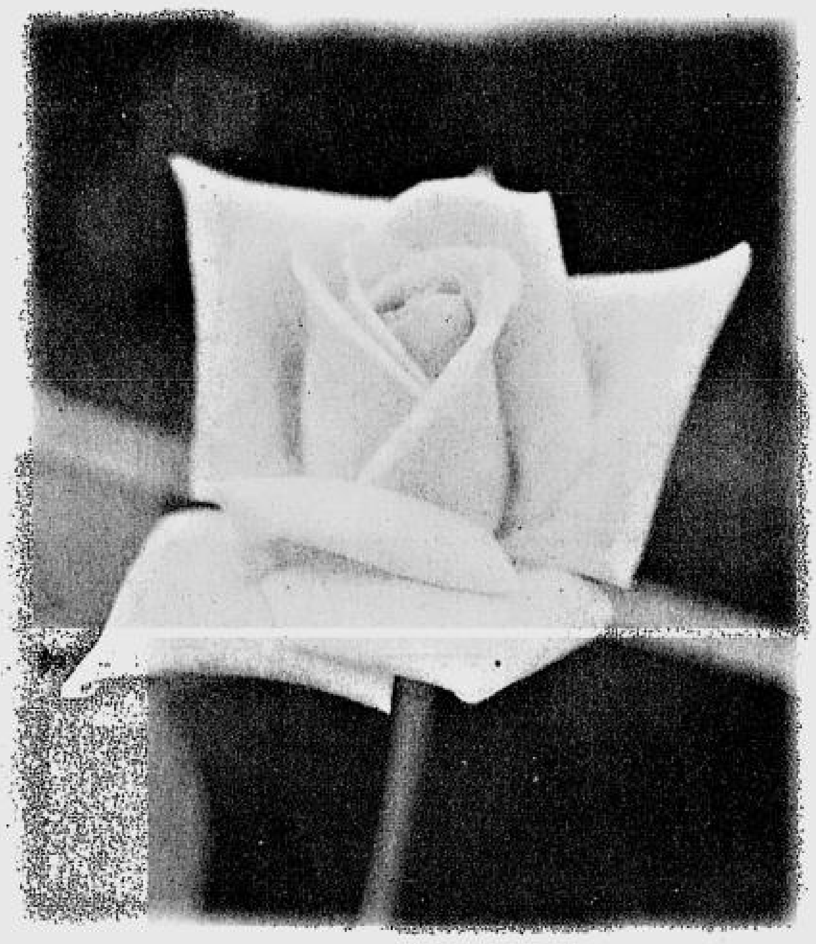
Apart from the lowly placemats and blankets, *abel* is now used for elegant barongs and fancy evening gowns.

But at a 23" width, the *abel*'s loom is narrow and can be quite a tricky material for designers. Santos says the weavers are currently undergoing training to produce a bigger and wider loom.

Ilocos Sur has also forged a part-

ABEL/ H4

ON CALLE CRISOLOGO: DJ wears an *inisa* barong while Patch wears a one-piece dress with a scarf accent.



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Abel

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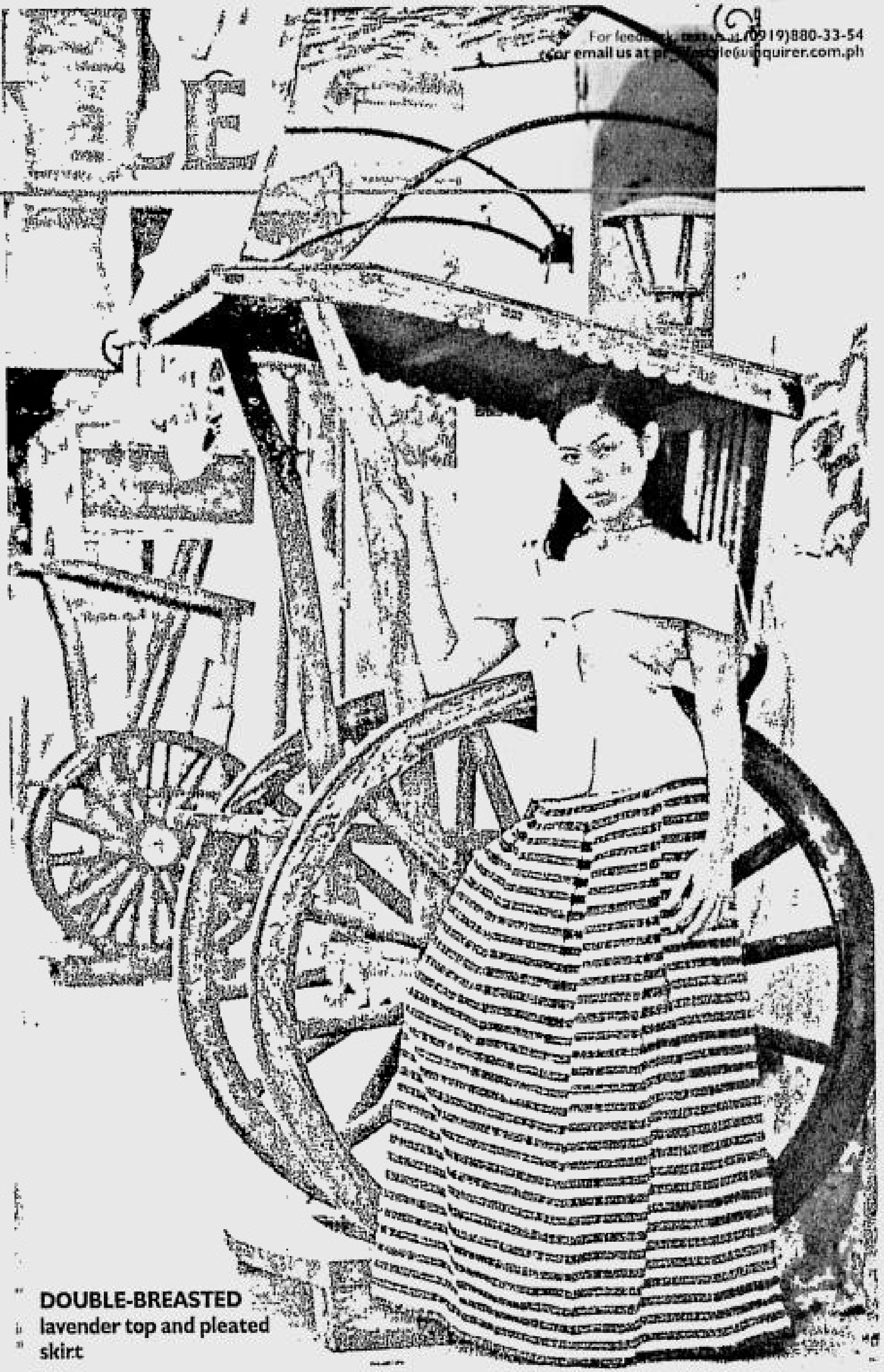
by any other name...



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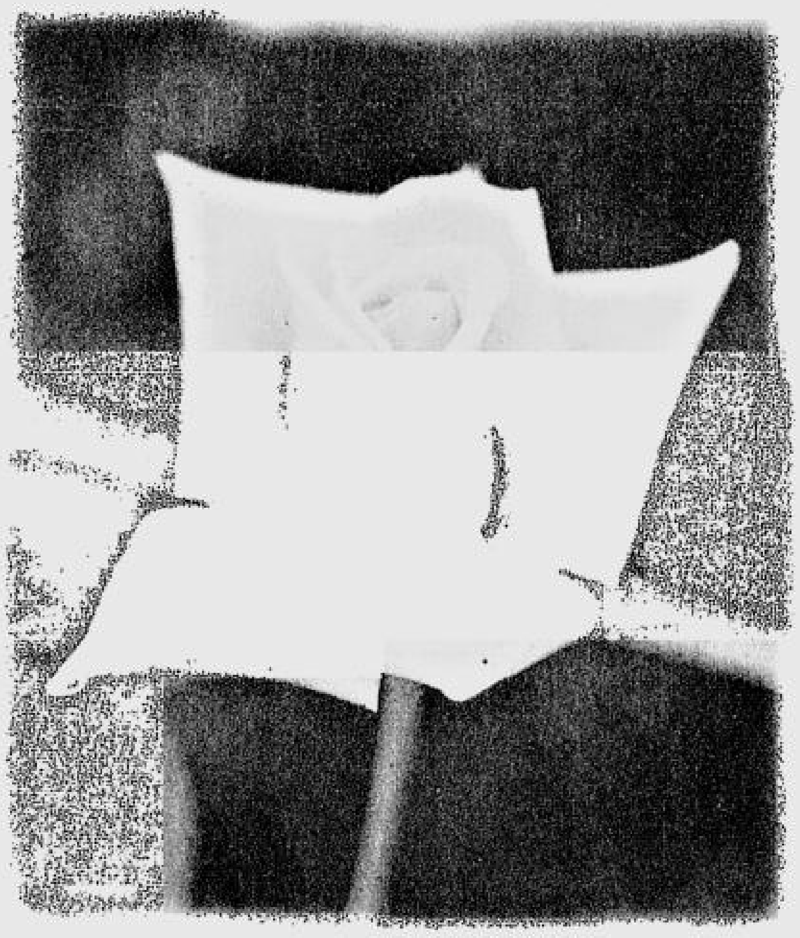

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FROM CHAMPION TO CHAMPION,

With professional sports careers as impressive as theirs, Bea Lucero, Christine Jacob, Lydia de Vega, Mon Fernandez and Monsour del Rosario have carved their names in the hearts and minds of the Filipinos. They are undoubtedly athletic heroes in their own right. However, their sports victories don't even constitute half of the underlying values, experiences, and accomplishments that really make them great, in the truest sense. Behind their stardom and long list of medals and championships are stories of sacrifice-filled lives characterized by years of rigorous training. More than the glory, the stories of their struggles and triumphs are what make them the legends that they are.

GREAT THINGS START FROM SMALL BEGINNINGS

Looking at how far they have come as sportsmen, it is sometimes hard to believe that it began quite ordinarily for all of them.

Before Bea Lucero gave gymnastics a face, she recalls how the passion was brought out in her, "When I was still studying, I would pass by the gym and see little girls flying in the air and I wanted to do the same thing." So began Bea's journey in gymnastics' world of grace and perfect form.

For swimmer Christine Jacob, it started as a shared passion between father and daughter, "My dad loves the water and he just wanted me and my brothers to learn how to swim so we wouldn't be afraid of the water." This simple beginning eventually pushed her to create a huge splash in competitive swimming.

Their successes were inevitable because at a very young age, they had made a conscious decision to pursue a lifelong dream in the exhilarating world of sports.

Now that they have years of experience and a whole slew of accomplishments to cherish, they can reminisce with amusement and easily talk about the twists and turns, flips and tumbles, ups and downs that came with the challenge of pursuing their Olympic dream. Renowned taekwondo black-belter, Monsour del Rosario, was also not spared from trials. "During the times when I wanted to quit, I'd get sidetracked. I'd skip training or mess up in my fights," he recounts. For runner, Lydia de Vega, there came a time when she almost did not pursue her sport. *"Una, sabi ko ayoko kasi alam kong hindi papayag ang Papa ko kahit na magpaalam ako,"* she says. Even, champion gymnast, Bea, was not spared from hard times. "There was a time when I almost gave up. Day in and day out, I used to wake up and sometimes be scared to start the day just because I was so tired," she shares.

The face that launched Philippine gymnastics. Bea Lucero beaming after winning the gold at the 1985 SEA Games

Had these setbacks prevented them from pursuing their sports -- taekwondo, gymnastics, and athletics -- their lives may have turned out completely different.

REAL CHAMPIONS AT HEART

Indeed, the road to fulfilling a big dream is far from easy. Discouragement is a nonexistent concept for the truly determined. More so for the real winner. "A winner is someone who will always stand up no matter how many times he falls. Someone who perseveres and will never give up. Someone who believes that the war isn't over until you're over," enthuses Monsour with a lot of conviction.

Fighting to the end. Monsour del Rosario, a true survivor at heart, fought his way to the Hall of Fame in Korea

Philippine basketball's El Presidente, Mon Fernandez, defines a winner the way he would a great player on court. "In basketball, a real winner goes out there in the most critical seconds of the game and takes over. He is not afraid to receive the ball and take the risk of making or breaking the game. And that's critical in life as well," he says. "All of the virtues and values that you need to excel in a game is basically the same values that you will need to go through life." As they say, people are players in the game of life and coming from seasoned sports champions, all it takes to thrive in this game is to follow a well thought-out game plan.

Bea, Christine, Lydia, Mon, and Monsour are quick to share their two cents worth on what individual athletes need in order to succeed in their chosen athletic careers. "Be the best in whatever you do. Whether it is in sports or in other endeavors, try to be the best. And, the only way to be the best is to practice, train hard, be disciplined, and persevere," Bea advises. In fact, these values can carry a passionate sportsman even when skills may not be exceptional. "You know, I'm not the most talented. At one point in my gymnastics career, my coach told me that I had no talent whatsoever and should just quit. But, I persevered and continued on," Bea adds. "Years later, he was the one who came to the Philippines to train me and he apologized for what he had said. Because of that, I believe that hard work is more important than just talent. Work hard, train hard because these are essential to being a good athlete. I don't believe in luck. You'd have better luck if you train harder."

4
YEA
THE WINNING ENER
MARIELLE INFANTADO
Palarong Pambansa, 2002 (Gold)
CHRISTINE JACOB
Olympics, 1984
SEA Games, 1983 (Gold)
MONSOUR DEL ROSARIO
Olympics, 1988
World Championship, 1985 (Bronze)
JAPOY LIZARDO
U.S. Open Taekwondo, 2002 (Silver)
LYDIA DE V
Asia's Fastest Wom

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THE WINNING ENERGY LIVES ON!

THE PRODIGIES TAKE CENTER STAGE

The next generation of rising sports stars know what hard work is all about. Meet four of the country's most promising junior athletes – Japoy Lizardo (taekwondo), Nica Calapatan (gymnastics), Micco Sollano (basketball), and Marielle Infantado (swimming). Young and innocent as they may seem, these sports prodigies already carry with them the same amount of passion and drive that their senior counterparts possess.

A splash of triumph. Christine Jacob at the 1981 SEA Games, flashing a smile that resonates the pride of the Filipinos

Japoy, Nica, Micco, and Marielle know the difficult path they have to follow in fulfilling their big dreams. They are aware that more sacrifices will come their way and difficult decisions will have to be made. Knowing this, they make a conscious effort to nurture a strong source of motivation and inspiration. It is heart-warming to see them value the support of their parents so much. Instead of getting their motivation elsewhere, they simply turn to Mom and Dad for inspiration and a few words of support. When asked to give other kids advise on how he manages to be an honor student and an athlete at the same time, rising hero on court, Micco Sollano, simply answered, "Just listen to your parents." Very well said by a good son, indeed.

She who ran for gold. Lydia de Vega, gold medalist at the 1991 SEA Games.

True to the winning values of a champion both in sports and in life, the four young athletes live by mantras that have clearly played a substantial role in building the strong foundation upon which they currently stand. These kids know what challenges come with their sport and they are well aware of how they should prepare themselves to balance their schedules, handle rigorous training, and deal with triumphs and failures. "Learn how to balance your time. They must learn how to discipline themselves and improve their attitudes. They need focus and they have to believe in themselves," Marielle advises young athletes like herself. Japoy could not have agreed more as he reiterates, "It's all about discipline and time management."

SHARED PASSION FOR HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

Aside from the intense passion for sports common among all athletes, both neophyte and experienced, the real sports greats are characterized by living healthy lifestyles. It takes a lot of discipline to maintain a healthy diet to complement their intense training. The adult athletes testify to the benefit of eating healthy and getting the energy that they need for daily training. Thus, it is not surprising that ensuring the intake of a healthy breakfast everyday and having several glasses of MILO a day are common habits among the nine athletes. Bea, Christine, Lydia, Mon, and Monsour grew up with MILO. Lydia even admits to being a MILO baby. "MILO supported me a lot. All throughout my career up until today, MILO is still a part of my life and I still drink it every morning," says Lydia. The same goes for Christine Jacob as she thinks back to her growing-up years and shares, "I really just drank MILO when I was a kid." Lydia, Bea, and Christine drank MILO to get as much energy as they could get for their sports.

Nestle
MILO
R S
Y LIVES ON

BEA LUCERO
Olympics 1992 (Bronze)
SEA Games 1985 & 1987 (Gold)

NICA CALAPATAN
Philippine Gymnastics Team 2003

EGA
n for 8 years

MICCO SOLLANO
MILO BEST SBP, 2003 (Champion Team)

MON FERNANDEZ
4-time PBA Most Valuable Player

Long live El Presidente. Ramon Fernandez, 4-time MVP of the PBA has proven that he deserves every vote that made him the inimitable ruler of the court

"MILO definitely played a part in my life. It helped in my physical well-being as a growing-up athlete," Mon says. Monsour is quick to add, "I would eat a lot of carbohydrates, take a lot of vitamins and a lot of chocolate drinks." They cannot stress enough the importance of living a healthy and energetic lifestyle in order to succeed in competitive sports. Among the important habits that the senior athletes would like to impart to their protégés, regularly drinking MILO is definitely at the top of their list.

THE VICTORY CONTINUES

Now that Bea, Christine, Lydia, Mon, and Monsour have moved on to the next chapters of their lives, the sportsmen in them will continue to live on because all those years of being athletes are an indispensable part of who they are today. They are the athletes we cheered for, the celebrities we admired, and now, the men and women whose legacies children dream of following.

Japoy, Nica, Micco, and Marielle represent a whole new generation of up and coming champions and as MILO celebrates its 40th year, it only has one simple message for our young athletes, "Let the winning energy live on!"

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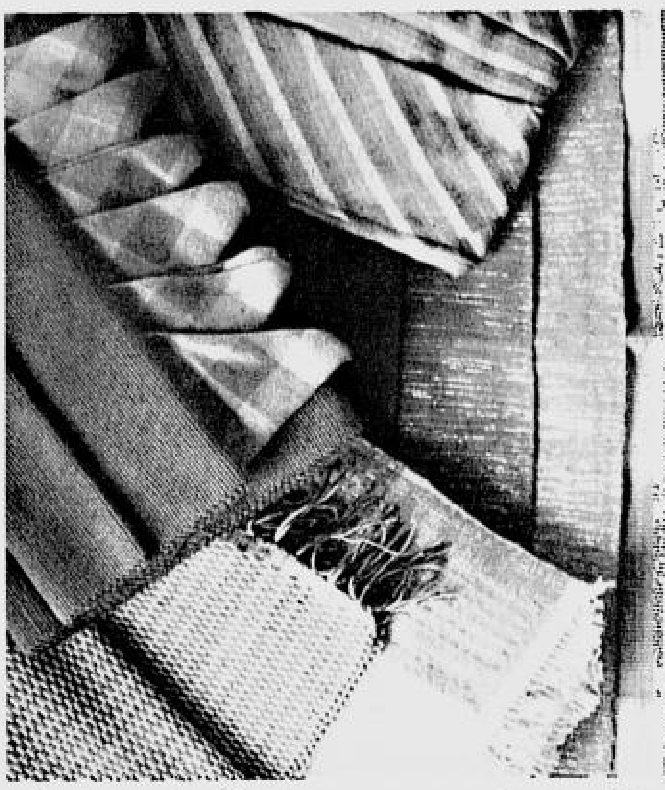
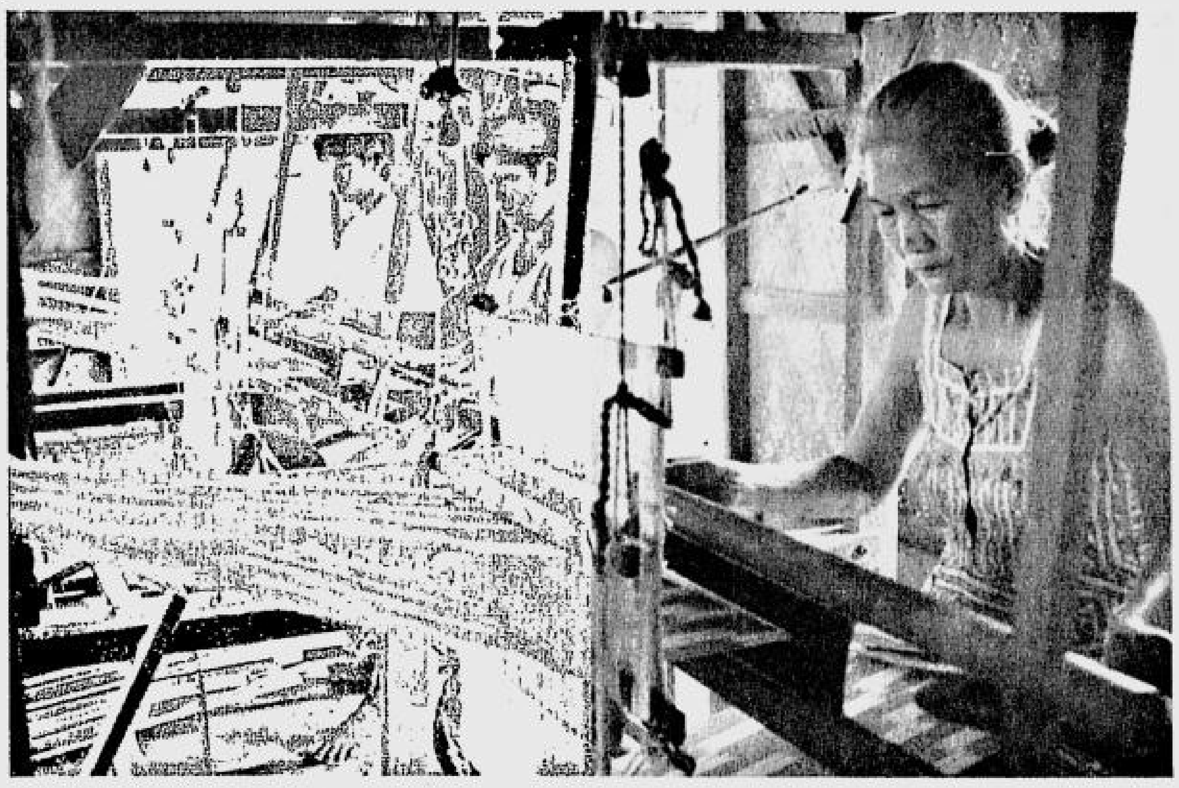


THREAD COUNT. Each town in Ilocos Sur has an *abel* specialty. Vigan and Caoayan are said to make the best fabrics for clothes and kitchen linens, while the best blankets come from Santa. Ethnic brocade designs come from Santiago.



THE FABRIC OF LIFE. Weavers at Cristy's Loomweaving in Camanggaan, Vigan City, listen to afternoon radio soap as they toil away at their *pangablan* (wooden loom).

Abel by any other name...

From page H1

nership with the Uniform Manufacturers Organization and Designers Organization (Unimoda) in answer to a Malacañang memorandum calling for government offices and agencies to utilize at least 60 percent of local fabrics for their uniforms.

According to Santos, there are about 100 individual weavers in the province, so orders from Unimoda are farmed out. Quality weavers are carefully selected. Prices are also standardized.

Next month, a central buying station for Ilocos Sur products, including *abel*, will open in Manila. Santos says the provincial government has promised to subsidize the transport of products to the big city. She is confident of the sustainability of the *abel* programs even as the elections are near, which may mark a change in local government administration.

"There's a central marketing office whose job is to promote the *abel* no matter who's in office," she says.

Cottage industry

In the entire region, *abel* weaving remains a cottage industry, the skill and art of which are passed on to generations. Santos, however, laments the refusal of the younger generation to learn the craft. This has doomsayers predicting the dying of the industry.

Atinaja, who, with her siblings, learned the trade from their mother, now 79, ended up the only one in her family to make weaving her source of livelihood. Through weaving, she has helped send her siblings' children through college.

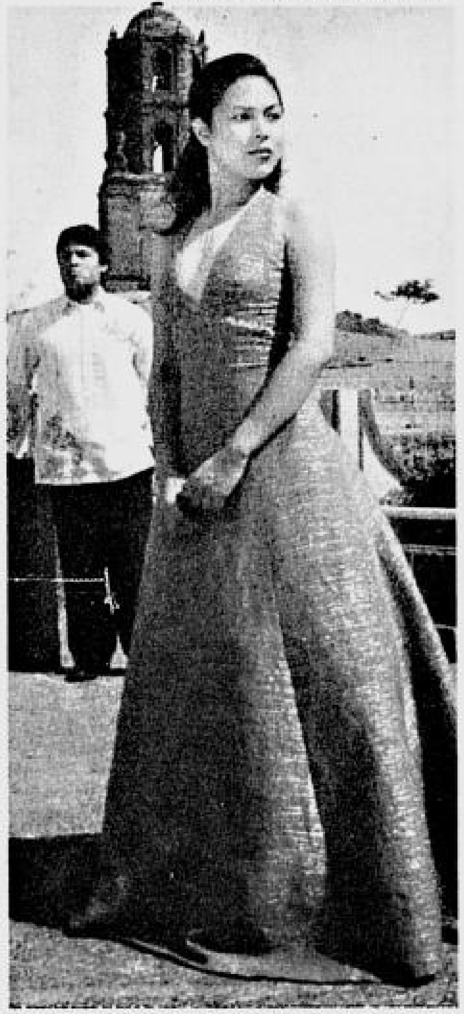
It is not without difficulties, she says. Atinaja has remained single and devoted to her craft. But unlike many who have chosen to abandon their legacy by leaving home to work as domestic helpers abroad, she says she's content.

She's now working double time to meet an order of 3,000 yards of fabric for uniforms in the provincial capitol. It's wearing her out, but Atinaja shrugs and just says she needs to grab the opportunity.

In the patience and industriousness of people like her rest the survival and success of the *abel* Ilocus Sur.

Lifestyle Goes to Vigan was sponsored by Globe Telecom.

E-mail the author at cmoral@inquirer.com.ph



AT THE HISTORIC Bantay Church belfry: Gold thread is woven into the fabric of Patch's blue halter gown. Her brother DJ dons an embroidered *inisa* barong of their father, Ilocos Sur Gov. D.V. Savellano.

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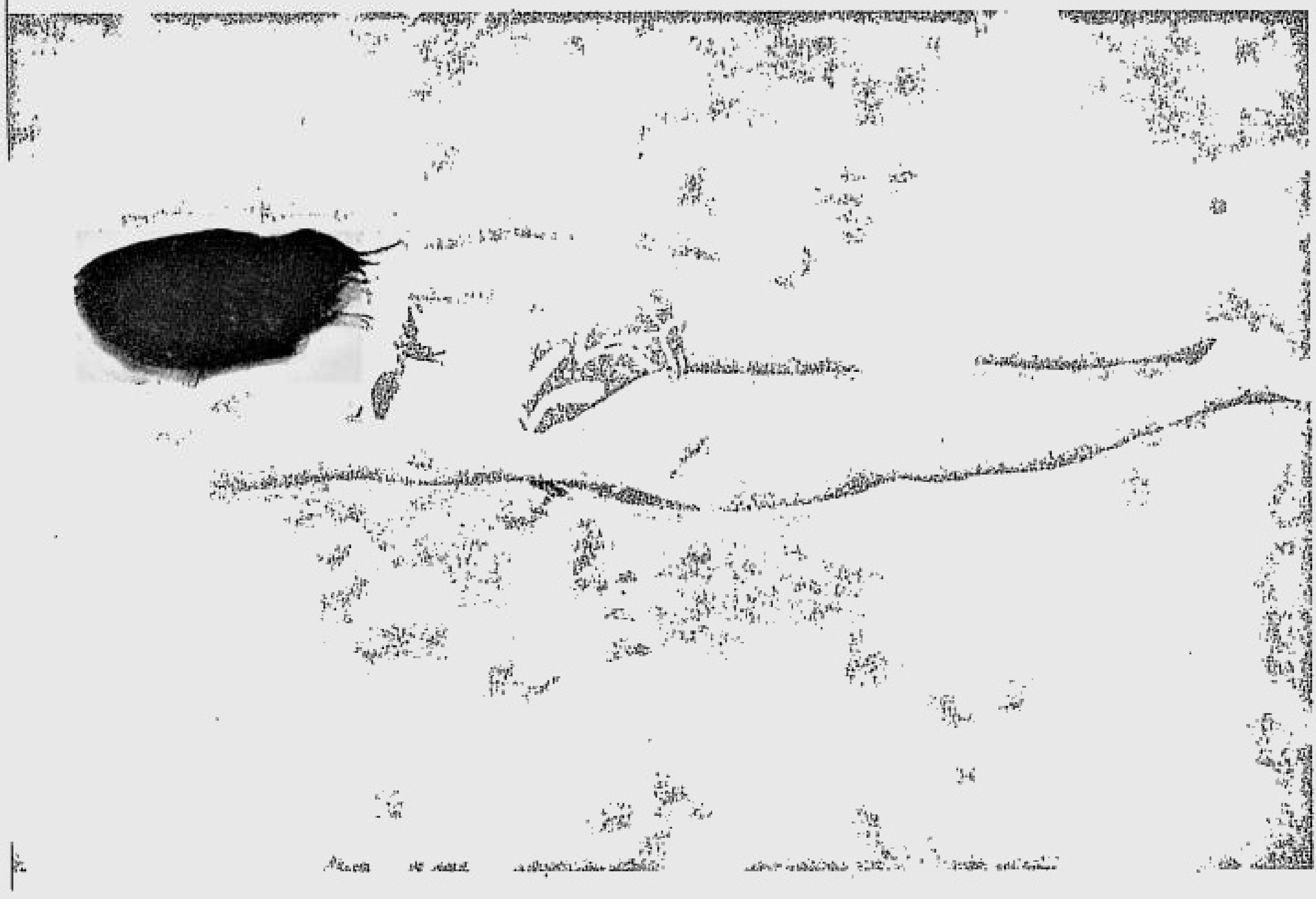

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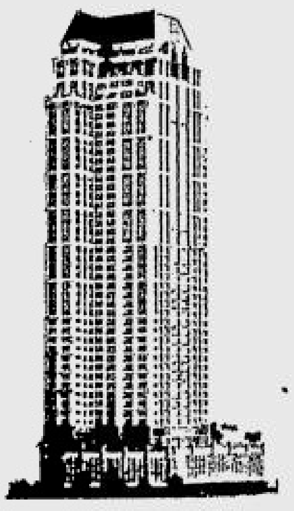

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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2004

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

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LITO Perez

Poses before the plunge

FOL Rana Jr.

By Alex Y. Vergara

A GROWING number of engaged couples have been "going out on dates with a photographer." And these dates can last between three to five hours in the most scenic locales in Tagaytay, Intramuros and the Manila Bay area. Some couples are even willing to shoulder their photographers' plane fare as they fly across the seas to join them.

Before you get any wrong ideas, these guys aren't about to ruin a promising relationship even before it gets off the ground. They're just part of a growing legion of wedding photographers who cater to many a modern couple's demand for a "prenup" (prenuptial) photo shoot.

Increase in demand

"I started noticing an increase in the demand four years ago," says Charlie Villanueva. "Part of the increase was fueled by word of mouth as a growing number of engaged couples learned about it from newlyweds."

Villanueva, Fol Rana Jr. and John Mateos Ong are three of the 15 wedding photographers—the rest are Jun Valbuena, Louie Allan, Lito Perez, Chito Cleofas, Mel Cortez and the INQUIRER's Chito Vecina—participating in this year's Wedding Expo Philippines (tel. 3719783 and 4100032).

The two-day wedding fair, which will run from March 6 to 7 at the NBC Tent at Fort Bonifacio, Global City, will also gather some

POSES/ 12

JOHN Mateos Ong

CHARLIE Villanueva

LOUIE Allan

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Blue Harbour Vintage adds a new washed down informal element to the classic, clean, American inspired Blue Harbour favourites.

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WITH principal sponsors (back row) Benjamin Philip Romualdez, Danilo Ocampo, Leo Hernandez and Vic de Vera; (front row) Mario Chan, Mario Marron, Jun Ambas, Fred Reyes

NAVERO-OLARTE NUPTIALS

'Love bus' takes couple to Vigan and beyond

WITH the groom's family: (standing) Soren and Joy Serrano, Uleses Navero; (seated) parents Benedict Sr. and Felisa Navero

WITH the bride's family: (standing) sister Wednesday Ann, brothers Michael Angelo, Israel, Winston Felipe, sister-in-law Betty; (seated) parents Pepito and Roxani and nephew Kurt Philip Sebastien

WITH Jun Ambas, Nelson Yau, Cherry Yau, INQUIRER president Sandy Prieto-Romualdez and Benjamin Philip Romualdez, Lynne Abanilla and Elizabeth Pelea

WHEN Hanneycell "Sweet" Olarte got sick on a field trip to Vigan in Ilocos Sur, a classmate volunteered to care for her while she rested at the back of the bus.

Though he hardly knew her, Benedict Navero Jr. carried her there, put a blanket over her and tried to ease her discomfort. And there, in the romantic city of Vigan, the two junior Tourism majors from Centro Escolar University began a tender friendship that would lead to a wedding five years later.

It was obvious to everyone what a happy day it was for Sweet who could not stop giggling during the wedding march and throughout the entire ceremony. Glowing in her golden gown by Bhe Frisnedy Cruz, she was led down the aisle of the ballroom of the CSB International Conference Center by her father, INQUIRER vice president for advertising Pepito Olarte, and mom, Roxani Olarte.

Ben, the son of Felisa and Benedicto Navero Sr., waited for Sweet at the end of the aisle where they were married by Judge Jose A. Mendoza.

Principal sponsors included Benjamin Philip Romualdez, Cherry Reyes, Vic de Vera, Cherry Yan, Leo Hernandez, Leny Ledesma, Fred Reyes, Leticia Cruz, Mario Marron Jr., Jesusa Achacosa-Cruz, Mario Chan, Lynne Abanilla, Francisco Ambas Jr., Carolina Pascua, Danilo Ocampo and Nenita Saingan.

A fan of oldies music, Sweet had the Marcy David Band play sentimental standards by Sinatra and others.

"We've come a long way since we met on that bus ride in Vigan. We look forward to going more places, doing more things together. Always together for the rest of our lives," Ben and Sweet told their guests.

NEWLYWEDS
Benedict and Sweet Navero (nee Olarte)

Poses before the plunge

From page 11

FOL Rana Jr.

JOHN Mateos Ong

of the country's best videographers, fashion designers, caterers and florists.

Rana says couples nowadays demand a more "photo-journalistic" quality in their pictures. Wedding photographers in Australia and several Western countries started the trend by shooting their subjects before their weddings, using the most unlikely places as backdrops and doing the most unlikely poses.

"Gone are the days when wedding pictures are stiff or shot in the studios," Rana adds. "Couples want candid, non-traditional shots."

Candid shots

One of the best ways to achieve this is for the couple to pose in a series of seemingly candid shots at least two months before the wedding. Changes are likely to occur in the couple's appearance if shoots are done much earlier.

"The bride, for example, might lose weight or grow her hair over the intervening months," he says. "There must be continuity, since these prenup photos not only end up in the couple's album, but also in their invitations, slide presentation and table setting."

Of course, such carefree moments are anything but unguarded. Aside from motivating the couple and coming up with various scenarios, the photographer uses such opportunities to get to know them better.

"We try to establish rapport with the couple as well as learn their best angles," says Ong. "Shooting prenup photos is like doing a trial shoot."

And unlike an actual wedding and reception where the photographer works within certain parameters, a prenup shoot requires a shutterbug to be more creative. He always has to come up with fresh ideas, as no two couples are alike.

Couples are advised to dress as casually as possible, but this hasn't stopped a few brides from wearing "trial" makeup for the occasion. More often than not, this will also be her makeup on her wedding day.

Photographers such as Ong do prenup shoots for free as long as the couple gets him to do the wedding. Rana and Villanueva charge separate fees to do the job. In Rana's case, he won't do a prenup shoot without the assurance that he'll do the main event.

A typical wedding package ranges from P40,000 to P100,000. Villanueva offers a photo and video package for P200,000, while Rana provides clients with a number of formats, from traditional albums to coffee table books.

Such fees aren't exactly cheap, but still quite a bargain compared to those charged by these photographers' counterparts abroad.

In the United States, for instance, such packages could set back the couple by $3,500 to $5,000.

Savings

The savings haven't escaped a number of bargain-hunting Filipino-Americans in the US who have sought Rana's services. He belongs to a growing number of wedding photographers with a website.

"As long as they pay for my air fare and accommodations, I'm willing to shoot them whether the wedding is in Chicago, New York or San Francisco," he says.

After the couple has settled on a wedding venue, the choice of a photographer often falls within the next top five concerns. Not surprising, really, as photos are often the only things the couple gets to keep years after the wedding.

"There are times [when] you even give away your spouse," says Villanueva. "But for some reason you always end up holding on to the pictures."

E-mail the author at avergara@inquirer.com.ph

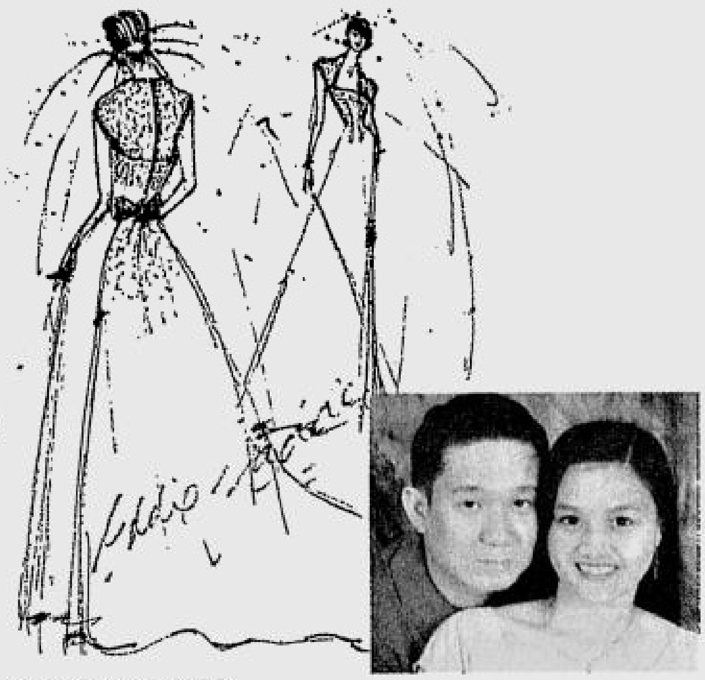
JUN Valbuena

Milestones

We're accepting announcements of weddings and engagements. Please send the following typewritten information: names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, gown designer and other related information. Readers can send sketches of gowns and pictures of the couple to the INQUIRER *office, or P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City, or e-mail lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph. This will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the sender.*

BARADI-CLAUDIO

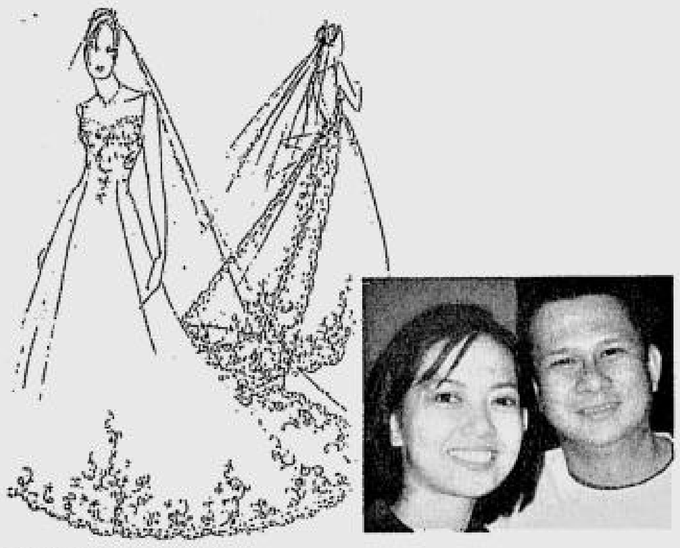
Kristine Claudio tied the knot with **Gabriel Baradi** on Jan. 3, at San Sebastian Church.



CRUZ-SORIANO

Nadia Marie Quero Soriano, second child of **Eduardo** and **Filipinas Soriano**, will wear an **Eddie Baddeo** creation when she marries **Danwin Quizon Cruz**, eldest son of **Danilo** and **Winona Cruz**, on March 5, 4 p.m. at Iglesia ni Cristo, F. Manalo in San Juan, MM. Reception immediately follows at Acropolis Clubhouse in Libis, QC.

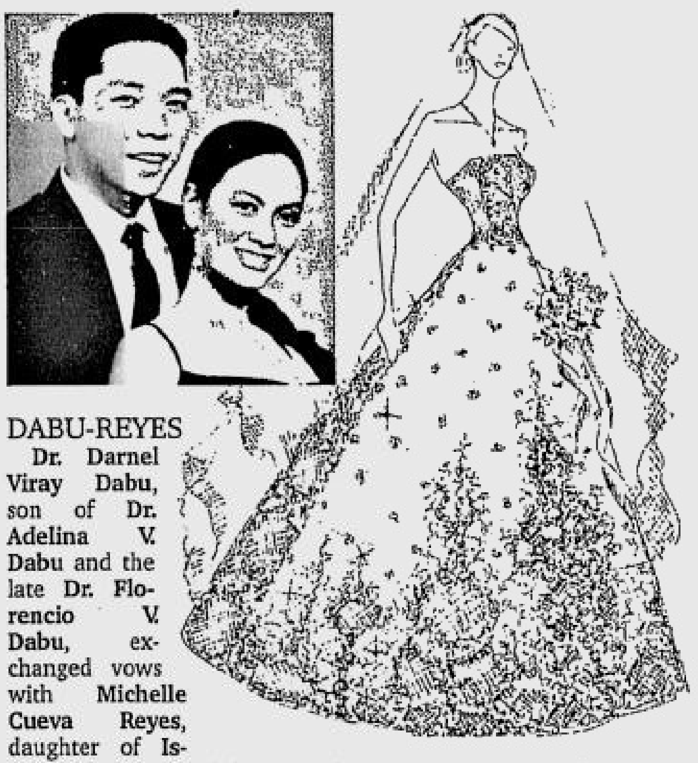
The bride will wear a pure white duchess satin column gown with detachable train. Strap and back see-through mesh net, stretch top were sprinkled with caviar and sugar beads. Baddeo also did the gowns of their moms, both in champagne gold, and the bridal ensemble in rose pink motif. **Eric Maningat** will do the hair and makeup.



EDRAN-ABERIN

Alan Edran, son of **Jose** and **Zenaida Edran**, will marry **Mariflor Aberin**, daughter of **Miguel** and **Marietta Aberin**, on March 20 at St. Cyprian's Church, Long Beach, California, USA. Reception will follow at Recreation Park Golf Club (American Golf Corp.), Main Ballroom, Long Beach California, USA.

The bride will wear a classic princess-cut gown embellished with Swarovski crystals and embroidered with pale leitte beadings by **Patis Tesoro**.



DABU-REYES

Dr. Darnel Viray Dabu, son of **Dr. Adelina V. Dabu** and the late **Dr. Florencio V. Dabu**, exchanged vows with **Michelle Cueva Reyes**, daughter of **Isabelita C. Reyes** and the late **Col. Miguel P. Reyes**, on Feb. 8, at Our Lady of Remedies Chapel I, Clarkfield, Angeles City.

Wedding reception followed at the Holiday Inn Hotel, Clarkfield, Angeles City.

The bride wore a princess cut bustier in piña material with callado, mixed stones, cut beads and pearls by **Manny Dizon Ocampo**.

ABRAGAN-BAÑAGA

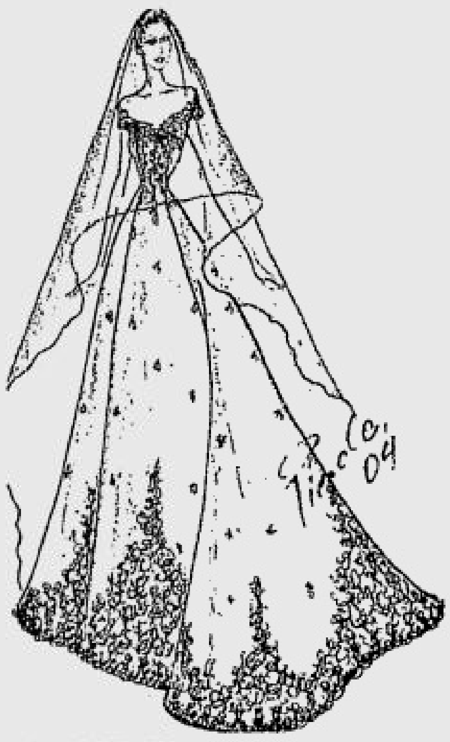
Anton Bragais Abragan, middle child of **Edgardo** and **Milagros Abragan**, married **Jing Parde Bañaga**, eldest daughter of **Justino** and **Francia Bañaga**, on Dec. 18, at St. Jude Thaddeus Parish, Naga City. Reception followed at Villa Caceres Hotel, Naga City.

TORDILLA-ASIADO

Gil and **Salve Tordilla** of Los Angeles California, celebrated the union of their son, **Gil C. Tordilla II**, to **Jane Asiado** of Naga City. The bride is the daughter of **Orlando** and **Lourdes Asiado**. The wedding took place last Nov. 29 at the Monte Cielo Poolside, Concepcion Grande, Naga City. The bride wore a cream and silver ensemble, while the entourage wore red wine coordinates by **Zandra Lim**.

AVANTE-ZALETA

Joel "Jojo" Avante and **Angela Zaleta** tied the knot on Jan. 23 at San Agustin Church, Intramuros, Manila. A formal dinner reception followed at the poolside of the Manila Diamond Hotel with the Sentimental Groove providing the house music.



RAMOS-BAUTISTA

Michelle Bautista, daughter of **Luis** and **Marilyn Bautista**, exchanged marital vows with **Earl Ramos**, son of the late **Eric** and **Elizabeth Ramos**, on Feb. 21 at the San Agustin Church, Intramuros, Manila. Reception followed at Fr. Blanco's Garden, Intramuros.

Eric Pineda designed the bride's gown in double-ply Thai silk mixed with stretch tulle. The bodice is embellished with beaded rose appliques, faux pearls and rhinestones. It has a detachable twin-panel train in silk gazar accented by a cascading bouquet of handmade cabbage roses.

The female members of the entourage wore shantung silk, chiffon gowns in shades of blush, salmon and rose pink.

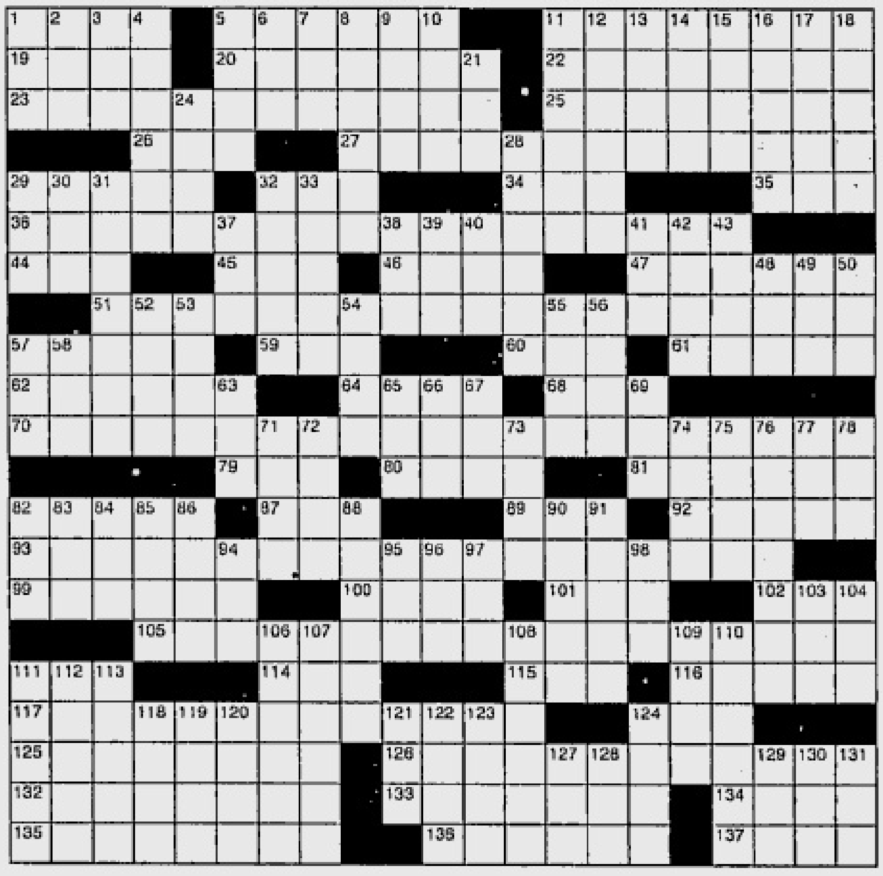
SUNDAY CROSSWORD

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Donna J. Stone

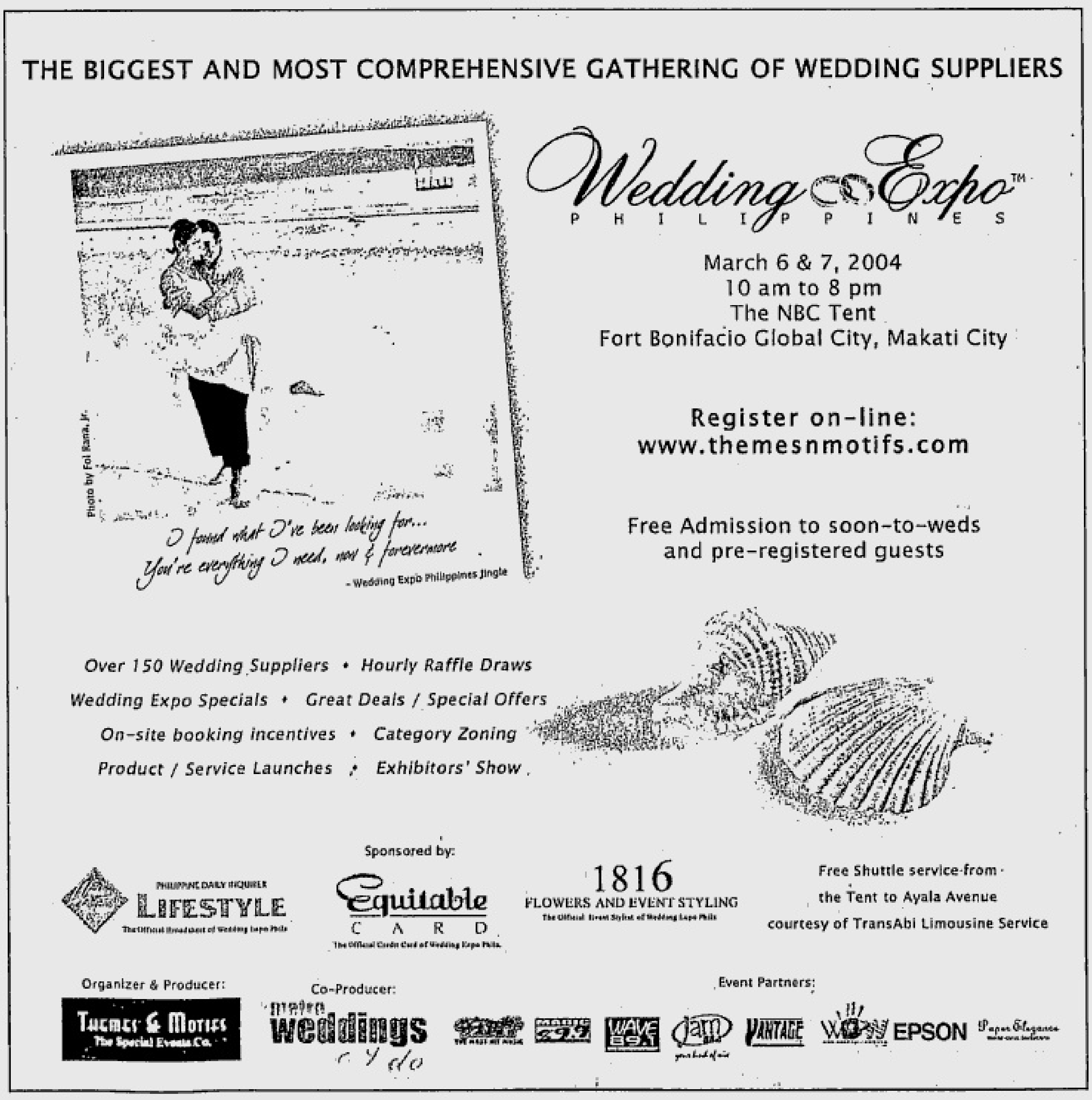
SOMETHING EXTRA

ACROSS
1 He played Pierce on "M*A*S*H"
5 Zodiac sign
11 Old West gunfighter
19 Bide one's time
20 Sources of chaotic weather
22 Rule domineeringly
23 Ship book leaves overseas?
25 Public contempt
26 West of Hollywood
27 Laser that pulls out teeth?
29 California county
32 — de cologne
34 Fragrant necklace
35 Beatified Fr. woman
36 Very demanding heads of state?
44 Drenched
45 HST's successor
46 XL times XX
47 Eats away at
51 Elucidates how roads are covered?
57 Game show host, e.g.
59 Greek vowel
60 Filming site
61 Smart-mouthed
62 Medium's meeting
64 Car to test-drive
68 Tear
70 Detailed statement on jurisdiction?
79 Teachers' org.
80 Remove, as a hat
81 More senseless
82 Syringe fluid
87 Mouth-to-mouth pro
89 Fall away
92 Eggs on
93 Clarify why something is covered in kraft paper?
99 Rising stars
100 Singing voice
101 Malaga gold
102 Ireland's — Lingus
105 Good time to use an illustration?
111 Singer Orbison
114 "Norma —"
115 Novelist Tan
116 British change
117 Write-up about a non-stop train?
124 Parisian pronoun
125 Boring
126 Rod that stretches out?
132 Chancellor called "Der Alte"
133 Franks
134 QB's shout
135 Hand motions
136 Celestial bodies that are cool and very red
137 Hoodwink

DOWN
1 Bowl over
2 Negligent
3 Quick swim
4 Part of AEC
5 Henri's head
6 Sitcom alien
7 One, to Juan
8 Anger
9 Computer operating system
10 Chimney buildup
11 Carved
12 Make helpless
13 Yes-— question
14 Aroma
15 Cemetery unit
16 Climbing vines
17 French legislature
18 "Go ahead, ask!"
21 Latvia, once: Abbr.
24 Sound off
28 Arlo Guthrie's "— Restaurant"
29 Cat's cry
30 Tomahawk
31 Price limit
32 Provide, as with power
33 Ten-percenter
37 Hitching-post reply?
38 St. crossers
39 Outer: Pref.
40 Learning inst.
41 Neighbor of Ariz.
42 Very, to Yves
43 Cell body
48 — Moines
49 Nav. officer
50 Pig's digs
52 Prefix with phobia
53 They're above abs
54 Carpenter's groove
55 Lima's land
56 Tolling away
57 180 from WNW
58 Tex-—
63 "Ich bin — Berliner"
65 Conclude
66 Bossy's bellow
67 See 77 Down
69 — Beta Kappa
71 Young adult
72 Two-syllable foot
73 Some
74 "Movin' —" ("The Jeffersons" theme)
75 Almost extinct
76 Fix deeply and firmly
77 With 67 Down, begin a golf game
78 Decade divs.
82 "Just a —!"
83 Author Umberto
84 Tachometer abbr.
85 1997 Peter Fonda title role
86 "Das Kapital" author
88 County Kerry's seat
90 Sweeping need
91 Bonds with a bat
94 "There — god!"
95 Senor's cheer
96 144-nation gp.
97 Queue before Q
98 Kettle's accuser?
103 List abbr.
104 Bread variety
106 Capt. Hook's henchman
107 Peeling gizmos
108 Inventor's acquisition
109 Stratford-—-Avon
110 Stable sounds
111 Put a new label on
112 Iron — (rust)
113 WWI battle site in Belgium
118 Landlord's income
119 Jacob's twin
120 Vinegary
121 Church perch
122 Beefy bovines
123 Numbered hwys.
124 Young gal
127 Vardalos of "My Big Fat Greek Wedding"
128 "— Stern" (German periodical)
129 Paper Mate rival
130 Wanted-poster letters
131 "Losing My Religion" band



answer on page E3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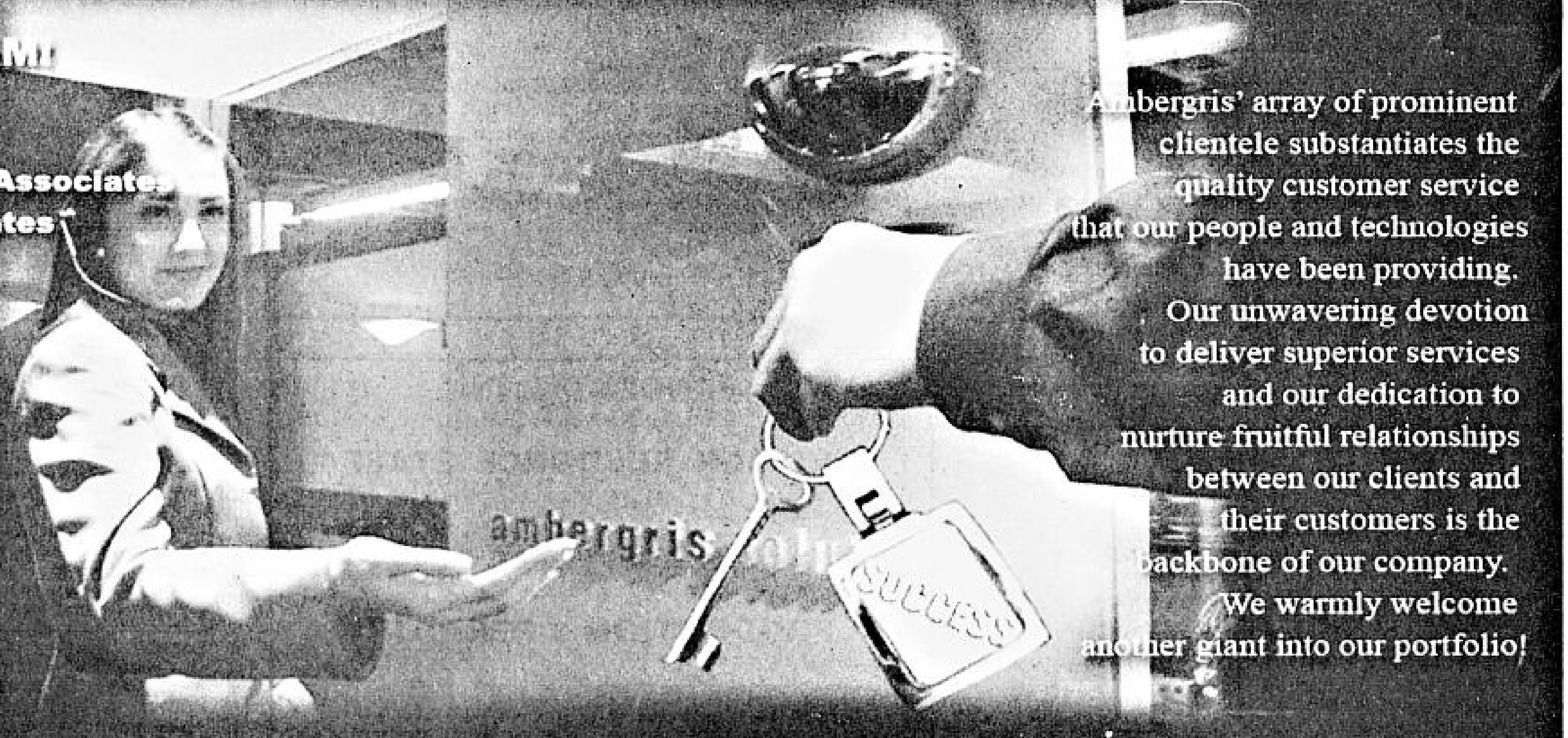

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125 ADDITIONAL NURSES REQUIRED

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NATIONAL FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

SEA-CEDAW PROGRAMME

The United Nations Development Fund for Women, UNIFEM East and Southeast Asia Regional Office is in need of a National Finance and Administrative Assistant for SEA-CEDAW Programme who will be under the overall supervision of the Deputy Programme Manager and the direct supervision of the National Coordinator in performing the following duties and responsibilities:

- Send, receive, screen, route and file correspondence/documents and maintain effective follow up system.
- Maintain an effective office filing system, both hard and soft versions.
- Arrange appointments and maintain the National Coordinator's calendars, receive visitors, place and screen telephone calls and emails.
- Type and/or draft documents, reports and correspondence as directed or organize database for accessibility of documentation.
- Keep an updated data base on all relevant individuals and institutions, including their coordinates and a mailing list.
- Make travel arrangements and prepare travel claims for the National Coordinator.
- Make local travel arrangements for the Programme Manager, the Deputy Programme Manager and the National Coordinator in preparation for meetings, training and presentations.
- Assist in information gathering for the CEDAW section of the UNIFEM website.
- Undertake translation work as required.
- Undertake other duties as assigned by the National Coordinator and/or the Programme Manager.

Under the direct supervision of the Deputy Programme Manager, the National Finance and Administrative Assistant will perform the following duties and responsibilities:

- Assist in the preparation of project budgets and revisions and maintain necessary financial records at country level, in compliance to the UNDP ATLAS system.
- Coordinate and manage all financial disbursements and banking for the country office.
- Assist the Programme Manager in tracking programme expenditures on a regular basis.
- Liaise with the Regional Programme/Finance Assistant and UNDP Country Office on administrative and financial matters such as procurement and supplies;
- Prepare financial reports at country level for the office as well as for UNIFEM Bangkok.

Job Qualifications:

- Academic background preferably in Finance/Accounting.
- Minimum three years experience in handling financial matters in addition to some experience in administration.
- Project related experience will be an advantage.
- Good command of written and spoken English.

The selected candidate will receive a salary depending on his/her background and work experience.

Applicants are requested to complete the UN Personal History Form (P.11), available in our website www.undp.org.ph/jobs/ and send to:

Human Resources Management Unit
United Nations Development Programme
7th Floor NEDA sa Makati Bldg.
106 Amorsolo St., Legaspi Village
Makati City, Philippines

indicating the Post Title on or before 10 MARCH 2004. Kindly note that only completed P11 forms will be reviewed.

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- Preferably knows how to speak niponggo

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Qualifications:
☐ Graduate of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Management or related courses preferably with 1-2 years exposure in all aspects of HR functions including but not limited to Recruitment, Training and Development and Employee Relation. Male or Female, single 22-35 years old. Computer literate. Good in Oral and Written Communication. Self-motivated and able to work with minimum supervision.

PRODUCTION OPERATORS

Qualifications:
☐ High School Graduate or College Level. Work experience not required. Female 18-35 years old. Hardworking, can work extended hours.

Special Instruction: Interested applicants may e-mail or personally send their Resumé with 2x2 or 1x1 colored photo at 150 Buyani St., Brgy. Doña Imelda, Quezon City.

1) HR Staff - with Application Letter on March 01-05, 2004 @ *prodental_admin@mydestiny.net*
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Male, 21-30 years old, minimum 2 years experience

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- Must have a pleasing personality and can deal with individual and corporate clients
- Hardworking and willing to go on field

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Human Resources Management Division
(c/o Executive Administration)
Ground Floor, Midland Buendia Bldg.
403 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City
E-mail address: cspagkalinawan@rgoc.com.ph

(We will reply to qualified applicants only)

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Chef and crews:

- Age 30 to 35
- 3 to 5 yrs. in Japanese cuisine
- efficient and fast working
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125 NURSES CURRENTLY REQUIRED

To qualify for employment, you must not be under contract with a Philippine recruitment agency. You must be currently employed for six (6) months in a 150 + bed acute care hospital and working in Medical, Surgical, ICU, CCU, Orthopedic and Ob/Gyn units. You must be fluent in English and successfully satisfy HCCA's hiring standards. Required documents include: resume, college diploma, transcript of records, board ratings, board certificate, PRC ID, updated employment certificate, birth certificate, passport and marriage certificate, if any and any results of CGFNS/NCLEX/TOEFL/TSE/IELTS exams, plus 4 pcs. 2x2 colored photos.

Absolutely, positively, no fees or hidden costs anywhere!

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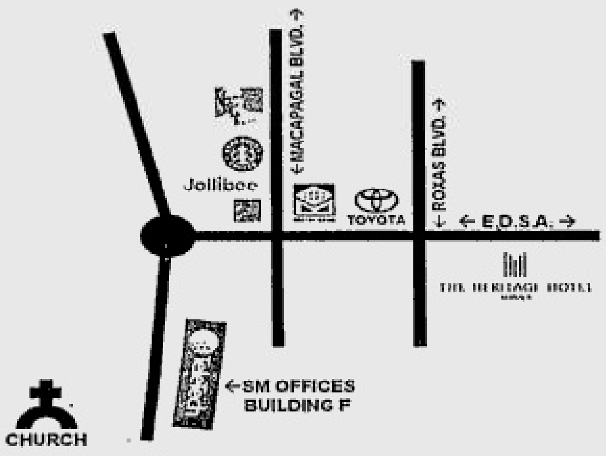
You may also send us your resume at OPSjobs@ph.teletech.com or visit us on site at Building F, SM Corporate Offices at Bay City.



TeleTech, the world leader in the provision of call center solutions is currently undergoing an exciting period of growth in our offices within,the Philippines. We're currently on the look out for new talent to work in our world class call centers who have strong command of the English language, are customer service focused, are analytical and solutions focused, are knowledgeable on PC architecture and applications, have excellent reasoning ability, and are able to interpret an extensive variety of technical instructions and are able to deal with abstract and concrete variables. If you are keen to progress your career with a global company then we want to talk to you! Dealing with callers from all over the United States, you will use your technical support skills to assist customers with their queries. If you have these skills and are available to work night shift, then join us now!

visit us at www.teletech.com

NATIONAL COORDINATOR
SEA-CEDAW PROGRAMME

The United Nations Development Fund for Women, UNIFEM East and Southeast Asia Regional Office is in need of a National Coordinator for SEA-CEDAW Programme who will assist the Programme Manager to manage the implementation of the Country programme on "Facilitating CEDAW Implementation towards the Realization of Women's Human Rights in South East Asia.

Main duties and responsibilities:

- Assist the Programme Manager in the overall implementation of the regional SEA-CEDAW Programme, including technical and administrative matters.
- Provide in-country technical support and guidance, in consultation with the Programme Manager.
- Advise Programme Manager on trends/issues which will affect impact of the country programme, as relevant.
- Coordinate with the Deputy Programme Manager on programme, administrative and financial matters.
- Undertake other duties as assigned by the Programme Manager and/or the Deputy Programme Manager.
- Coordinate, manage and monitor country programme implementation
- Coordinate preparation of annual workplans for country programme with all partners at country level and Programme Management Team (PMT).
- Organize the country Consultative Committee meetings.
- Liaise, update and/or brief the Country Consultative Committee on programme progress on a regular basis.
- Manage country programme resources and administration to ensure transparency and accountability.
- Supervise the day-to-day administrative and financial matters in the country office.
- Control and/or manage expenditures, maintain and update records of financial expenditures by monitoring the operational and financial aspects of the projects within the programme framework.
- Monitor and document the implementation of the programme utilizing viable indicators and lessons learned/good practices for organizational learning.
- Monitor and document the results of programme activities.
- Prepare semi-annual report on the country programme implementation for CIDA and UNIFEM and as may be required in certain cases.
- Represent UNIFEM at meetings in the country and region as assigned by the Programme Manager.
- Networking with relevant ministries such as the national women's machineries, human rights commission and other including the country CIDA office as well as key partners and stakeholders.

Job Qualifications:

- Graduate degree in the social sciences or related fields, or equivalent experience.
- Operational experience in working on gender issues.
- Leadership and management skills and ability to work as part of a team.
- Demonstrated strong policy advocacy and communication skills.
- Experience in working with the United Nations, other international organizations, government or NGOs.
- Demonstrated skill and experience in managing development projects/programme.
- Fluency in written and spoken English.

The selected candidate will receive a salary depending on his/her background and work experience.

Applicants are requested to complete the UN Personal History Form (P.11), available in our website www.undp.org.ph/jobs/ and send to:

Human Resources Management Unit
United Nations Development Programme
7th Floor NEDA sa Makati Bldg.
106 Amorsolo St., Legaspi Village
Makati City, Philippines

indicating the Post Title on or before 10 MARCH 2004. Kindly note that only completed P11 forms will be reviewed.

UNDP is an equal opportunity employer and invites Filipino nationals to apply for the post. Please note that we will contact only the short-listed candidates.

Do you want to be identified with a large and well-respected conglomerate?
Do you want to be a part of a team of young & aggressive professionals in charting the direction of a stable and fast-growing Bank?
If you answer in the affirmative, read on.

RobinsonsBank
A Savings Bank

A member of the highly diversified conglomerate, JG Summit Holdings Corp., **Robinsons Bank** *is in urgent need of young professionals to fit the following key positions:*

Branch Manager

(For Metro Manila, Mandaue Cebu, Dasma Cavite, Sta. Rosa Laguna & Lipa Batangas)

- ✓ Between 30 – 35 years old
- ✓ Graduate of any Business related course
- ✓ At least 2 yrs. Marketing experience & sufficient knowledge of branch operations
- ✓ With good oral and communication skills
- ✓ Preferably Chinese speaking for Cebu

Product Manager

- ✓ Between 25 - 35 years old
- ✓ Graduate of any Business related course
- ✓ With at least 3yrs. experience in Product Management
- ✓ With excellent oral & written comm. skills

Marketing Specialist

- ✓ Between 25 - 35 years old
- ✓ Graduate of any Business related course; pref. with Advertising background
- ✓ With at least 2yrs. experience in handling bank product presentation and materials conceptualization
- ✓ With excellent oral & written comm. skills
- ✓ Highly creative and imaginative

Treasury Support Assistant

- ✓ Between 20 - 25 years old
- ✓ Graduate of any Business related course
- ✓ With good scholastic records
- ✓ Bank experience is an advantage but not required
- ✓ Must be analytical
- ✓ With good oral & written comm. skills

Marketing Officer Auto & Liabilities

(For Metro Manila, Cebu, Iloilo & Bacolod)

- ✓ Between 25 - 35 years old
- ✓ Graduate of any Business related course
- ✓ With strong marketing background preferably in Banking or related fields
- ✓ Familiar with solicitation of deposit and auto loan accounts
- ✓ With good oral & written comm. skills
- ✓ Pleasing personality

Account Officer

- ✓ Between 25 – 35 years old
- ✓ Graduate of any Business related course
- ✓ With at least 2 yrs. experience as Account Officer for Commercial and Consumer Loans
- ✓ Excellent oral & written comm. skills
- ✓ Pleasing Personality

Technical Operations Specialist

- ✓ Male, between 20 - 30 years old
- ✓ Graduate of Computer Science, Computer Engineering, ECE or related courses
- ✓ With at least 3–5 yrs. experience in Windows NT Administration, Router Configuration & other technical support functions
- ✓ Willing to be assigned in night shift

Credit Evaluator

- ✓ Between 20 - 25 years old
- ✓ Graduate of any Business related course
- ✓ Background in loan processing and evaluation is an advantage
- ✓ Must be analytical
- ✓ With good oral & written comm. skills

Sales & Service Officer

(For Pool, Dasmariñas Cavite, and Sta. Rosa, Laguna)

- ✓ Between 25 – 30 years old
- ✓ Graduate of any Business related course
- ✓ CPA an advantage
- ✓ 3 to 5 years experience in new accounts, tellering, bookkeeping and supervision

Customer Sales Asst./Teller

(For MMla, Pool, Dasmariñas Cavite, Sta. Rosa, Laguna & Lipa, Batangas)

- ✓ Between 20 – 25 years old
- ✓ Graduate of any Business related course
- ✓ Experience in tellering / new accounts is an advantage
- ✓ Computer literate
- ✓ With good oral & written comm. skills
- ✓ Pleasing personality

Business Systems Specialist

- ✓ Between 23 - 30 years old
- ✓ Graduate of Computer Science or related courses
- ✓ Can handle business projects and support users
- ✓ At least 2 yrs. Experience in using Visual Basic, Access, RPG, and other banking applications
- ✓ Knowledge of Silverlake banking system is an advantage

I.T. Auditor

- ✓ Between 22 - 30 years old
- ✓ Graduate of Accounting; CPA
- ✓ With at least 1year experience in Systems Audit gained from an Audit Firm or Banks
- ✓ Must be analytical; computer literate
- ✓ With good oral & written comm. skills

Interested applicants may submit their Letter of Application, Resume, & Transcript of Records to:

ROBINSONS SAVINGS BANK - HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT GROUP
Level 1, Octagon Bldg., San Miguel Ave., Pasig City
Fax no. (632) 6363048 • Email: recruitment@robinsonsbank.com.ph
Only qualified applicants shall be notified.

A JG Summit Company

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30 years of service excellence
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U-BIX CORPORATION

the country's leading office systems provider announces its job openings nationwide...

SALES EXECUTIVES
FOR COPIERS
(For Metro Manila, Calabarzon, Angeles, La Union, Naga ,Bacolod, Iloilo, Cebu, Davao, General Santos, Dumaguete, Zamboanga)

Will be responsible for promoting and selling digital copiers

- Graduate of any business course from a reputable school
- Preferably with at least two years experience in selling office machines and equipment; a good working knowledge in computer operation, applications and networking are major advantages
- Determined to pursue career in sales
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Assertive and self-motivated
- Male/Female, not more than 30 years old

SALES EXECUTIVES
FOR SERVICEMASTER
(For Metro Manila, Cebu)

- Graduate of any business course from a reputable school
- Preferably with at least two years sales experience in the service industry
- Determined to pursue career in sales
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Assertive and self-motivated
- Male/Female, not more than 30 years old

DEALER COORDINATORS
FOR EPSON PRINTERS
(For Metro Manila, Cagayan de Oro, Zamboanga)

- Graduate of any business course from a reputable school
- With at least two years experience in coordinating with dealers
- Determined to pursue career in sales
- Hardworking and self-motivated
- Willing to travel and work long hours
- Male/Female, not more than 30 years old

ACCTG. CLERK/ STOCK CUSTODIAN
(For Metro Manila, Angeles, Subic, Dumaguete and Iloilo)

- BS accountancy graduate
- With at least one year experience in Accounting or inventory
- Must be proficient in computer applications
- Must be responsible and can work for long hours
- Female, not more than 25 years old
- Preferably resident of Metro Manila, Angeles, Subic, Dumaguete or Iloilo

Competitive compensation, high commission and a rewarding professional career await successful candidates

Qualified applicants are requested to send or e-mail their resume with photo to
Recruitment & Training Group
U-BIX CORPORATION
1331 Angono St., Makati City
E-mail Address: hrd@ubix.com.ph
Previous applicants need not apply

Konica EPSON RISO okamura

TERADYNE

Is the world's largest supplier of automatic test equipment and software for the telecommunications and electronics industries. It is engaged in parts and repair services support for mixed signal, VLSI and memory testing. Its Repair Center facility in Cebu has been in operation since 1996 and its Customer Care Center and Process Lab Operations that recently opened in 2003 employs more than 100 personnel. With the unprecedented growth of the Company, we are looking for individuals who are creative, aggressive, and mature to fill up the position of:

Global Customer Services

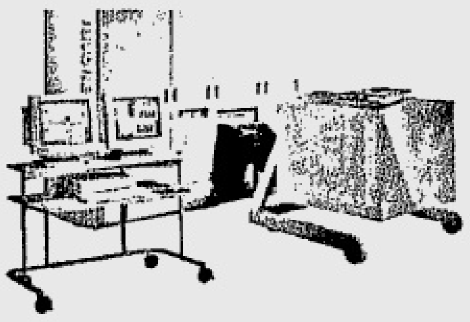
CALL CENTER MANAGER(CODE: CSM)

Duties/ Responsibilities/ Essential Functions:

The Call Center Manager shall be responsible in managing the Worldwide Call Center operating 7x24. The candidate is expected to achieve operational goals in the Call Center, develops goals and strategies in driving continuous improvement using quality tools, develops and implements metrics to measure efficiency and productivity of Customer Service Representatives, as well as to implement continuous learning plan for the whole Call Center employees. Likewise, he has to work closely with Worldwide Regional Managers to resolve issues of Teradyne customers and participate in worldwide initiative programs by Field operations and Marketing.

Qualifications:

- Bachelors degree with a minimum of 3-4 years of exceptional customer service work experience is an advantage
- Excellent phone and verbal communication in English language
- Excellent management, leadership, organizational, and People management skills
- Proficiency with Microsoft Office package (Power Point, Excel and Word)
- Willing to work on shifting schedule, including night shift and flexible in working for more than the regular working hours
- Will have to be on-call for any urgent operational matters ; Willing to travel abroad if necessary



The Successful candidate will receive a competitive compensation and benefits package within the Call Center industry and has the opportunity to work in a technology driven company like TERADYNE. THIS IS AN URGENT REQUIREMENT. Please send your **application letter** together with your **resume** and **1x1 ID picture not later than 03 March 2004** to:

THE HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER
Mactan Export Processing Zone II
Basak, Lapu-Lapu City, Cebu, Philippines 6015
Or email to: **Philippines.jobs@teradyne.com**

UNDP

A project funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and implemented by the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), is in search of a qualified candidate for the post of **Finance Assistant**, to report directly to the Project Coordinator and to be based at the EMB Office in Quezon City.

FINANCE ASSISTANT

QUALIFICATIONS

1. Male or female, not more than 35 years old
2. Must have a Bachelor's degree in Accounting, Business Administration, Economics or other related field
3. With at least three (3) years professional experience in related financial management services
4. Must have very good writing skills in preparing reports and business communications
5. Proficiency in use of various applications (MS Word, MS Project, Excel etc.)
6. Experience in Government-executed project procedures is an advantage

TASKS

1. Install the project's financial systems and procedures, in accordance with UNDP's existing guidelines on national execution;
2. Orient project staff on the use of the project's financial systems and procedures;
3. Supervise the proper recording of financial transactions and submit regular report on the project's financial status;
4. Certify the correctness of journals, vouchers, bills, statement of accounts, trial balance, budget estimates and other financial statement and records;
5. Sign certification of the availability of funds and/or allotment of expenses, vouchers and requisition for supplies, materials etc;
6. Consolidate and prepare annual and quarterly budgets complementary to the approved work plans, including the necessary budget revisions;
7. Establish project account and ensure appropriateness and proper record keeping of transactions;
8. Supervise the preparation of payroll and general voucher of salaries, and other documentary requirements for disbursements; and
9. Prepare updated reports on disbursements made by the project and advise the Project Coordinator on the overall financial status of the project

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Development Support Services Center
United Nations Development Programme
7th Floor, NEDA sa Makati Building,
106 Amorsolo Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City
Tel. nos. 892-0611 to 25 loc. 386
Fax nos. 893 9598 and 816 4061
Email address: bc_admin.ph@undp.org

All application letters, completed P11 forms and comprehensive resumes should reach our office on or before 12 March 2004.

Only shortlisted candidates will be notified.

This advertisement shall remain posted in www.undp.org.ph until March 12, 2004.

Get your career off the ground.

JOB Market
www.jobmarketonline.com

NURSE ASSISTANT

TRAINING PROGRAM

3 Months Only!

- One of the fastest growing careers in the US, UK and Canada!
- Patterned after the C.N.A. Training Program of our affiliate school, OMEGA Healthcare Technical School (2320 W. Peterson., Chicago, IL, USA 60659)
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803-7161

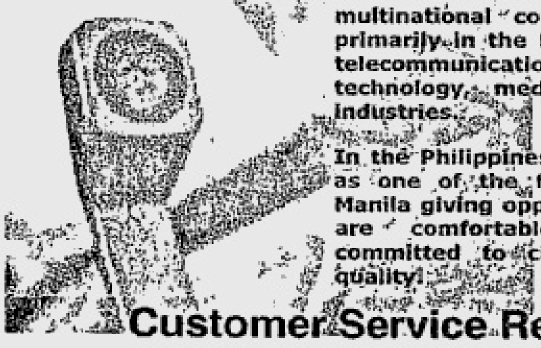
SERTO-OMEGA
TRAINING AND REVIEW CENTER

31-A Love St., St. Joseph Subd., Las Piñas (bet. ATC & Southmall)
TESDA Reg.No. TR0213032018

ICT GROUP
The CRM Services Company

What It Means To Be In Touch

ICT GROUP is a leading globally integrated supplier of customer relationship management (CRM) solutions. We provide a comprehensive suite of sales, service and marketing solutions designed to help clients identify, acquire, retain, service, measure and maximize the lifetime value of their customer relationships.



More than 11,000 ICT GROUP employees at nearly 50 contact centers in the United States, Canada, Europe, Australia, Mexico, the Caribbean and the Philippines support multinational corporations and institutions, primarily in the financial services, insurance, telecommunications, healthcare, information technology, media, energy and hospitality industries.

In the Philippines, ICT Group has been noted as one of the fast-growing call centers in Manila giving opportunities to individuals who are comfortable with technology and committed to client satisfaction and total quality!

Customer Service Representative

Responsibilities:
- Acts as front-line contact with customers by telephonic communications
- Receives and responds to problems, queries, and requests of the customer
- Ensures customer satisfaction

Requirements:
1.Financial Account
  - Preferably with experience in a mortgage or financial account

2.Sales Account
  - Preferably with experience in sales and telemarketing

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's / College Degree
- Excellent communication skills in conversational English
- Active listening skills
- Strong interpersonal skills to work with the customers and with the team
- Willing to work on nighttime shifting schedule
- Fresh graduates are encouraged to apply

Interested applicants may send their resume to recruitingmanila@ictgroup.com or visit us at the 19th Floor, Tower 2, RCBC Plaza, Ayala Avenue corner Senator Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City.

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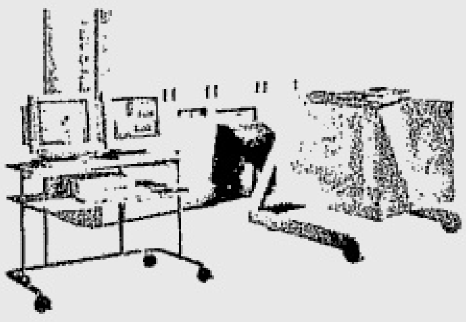

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What It Means To Be In Touch
The CRM Services Company

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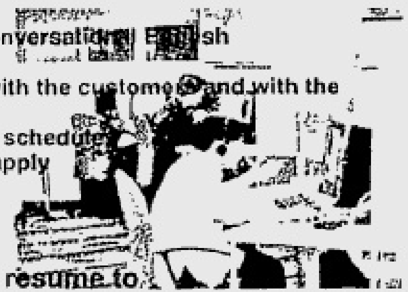

Interested applicants may send their resume to recruitingmanila@ictgroup.com or visit us at the 19th Floor, Tower 2, RCBC Plaza, Ayala Avenue corner Senator Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City.

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CYPRESS

CYPRESS Manufacturing Ltd., Philippine Branch

A diversified, broadline supplier with a communications focus. In fact, Cypress has created some of the world's leading semiconductor products that support key communications businesses.

Cypress has aligned its organization along four market-focused segments:

- Wireless Terminals
- Wireless Infrastructure
- Wide Area Networks
- and Storage Networks

The segment organizations are dedicated to providing a broad portfolio of high-performance solutions at the most competitive cost. Cypress's introduction of new products continues at a record pace to serve the accelerating demand for integrated communications solutions. Cypress Semiconductor is a global supplier of high-performance integrated circuits. Our global headquarter is located at San Jose California. Our strategic customer-leaders in the data communications, networking, telecommunications, and personal computer markets.

At Cypress, we strive to surpass current standards in the world's most competitive high tech arena. We will also reward success and hard work with competitive salary, tuition refund, and a flexible benefits package. And we are looking for qualified candidates to fill our Job Requirements below:

Two (2) Sr. Financial Analyst

Summary of Responsibilities

Typical responsibilities include analysis, reporting, and presentation of accounting and financial information used by management for business planning, control and decision-making. The Sr. Financial Analyst develops, recommends, and implements solutions to complex financial issues or technical projects or processes, requiring financial analysis skills and a thorough knowledge of accounting & financial concepts.

Job Requirements:

- Candidate must possess strong interest in technology and a desire to experience a fast pace high tech environment. Ability to drive results and work well under pressure. Entrepreneurial approach necessary.
- Candidate must possess exceptional quantitative, analytical, logical reasoning, interpersonal skills, and the ability to work effectively with senior management.
- Candidate must demonstrate career progression with increased levels of responsibility, PC skills, knowledge of software packages, and financial modeling expertise using Excel.
- With excellent communication skills both oral and written.
- Graduate of BA/BS Finance, Economics, Acctg or equivalent degree
- MBA, CMA and/or CPA preferred
- Candidate must possess excellent planning and decision making skills and is able to liase with all levels in the organization.
- With 4-8 years Finance/Accounting experience.
- With at least 5 years High tech/semiconductor experience is preferred.
- Oracle Financials experience preferred.

Operations Controller

Responsibilities:

- Initiate and develop strategic and operational plans to facilitate continuous performance improvement for Cypress manufacturing plant in the Philippines.
- Manage the budget functions and monitor adherence to approved budget, the annual plan (AOP), the beginning of quarter (BOQ) and end of quarter (EOQ) budget.
- Manage plant spending for financial planning and control.
- Drive the different cost management teams and monitor/support the cost reductions and strategic initiatives of the teams.
- Interact with Product Controllers based in the US.
- Responsible for people development of the organization.
- Co-manage cost accounting managers and give direct support to the Plant Managing Director.
- Position reports to Finance Director.

Requirements:

- Dynamic, creative, analytical and proactive with proven track record in a supervisory management level.
- Must have demonstrated strong leadership and influencing skills in current position.
- Must have strong people management exposure and able to communicate effectively at team level but also at senior management level.
- Must have 5 years working experience from an international manufacturing company preferably from a semiconductor company.
- Must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree in Business Studies/Administration/Management, Accountancy or equivalent. With Masters Degree or CMA/CPA preferred but not required.
- Must have demonstrated ability to forge business partnerships and drive the finance agenda.

Candidates must be willing to bebased in Cavite

Interested applicants are requested to submit their resumes (in word format) to:
vju@cypress.com

or mail us at

Cypress Manufacturing Ltd., Philippine Branch
Gateway Business Park, Special Export Processing Zone
Brgy. Javalera, General Trias Cavite, Philippines 4107
Manila Tel. No. (632) 812.8161
Cavite Tel. No. (6346) 433-0164

Visit us at **www.cypress.com**

ATTENTION: RESIDENTS OF OLONGAPO, BATAAN & PAMPANGA

PLEASE APPLY PERSONALLY ON MARCH 2-3 2004 from 10am-5pm AT JOLLIBEE SM PAMPANGA ANNEX Bring your updated resume, transcript of records & recent picture. Please be in business attire.

Jollibee

*In 2002, we were ranked among **ASIA'S BEST EMPLOYERS**, the only Philippine company in the list, and the **#1 EMPLOYER IN THE PHILIPPINES**, as cited by the Far Eastern Economic Review, The Asian Wall Street Journal, and Hewitt Associates. Ranked **3rd among ASIA'S MOST ADMIRED COMPANIES** in 2000, we were also cited as **No. 1 in "OVERALL LEADERSHIP"** among the top 10 Philippine companies doing business in Asia.*

*Recognized by the World Economic Forum as the **"GLOBAL GROWTH COMPANY"**, we invite you to join the ranks of highly successful individuals of the No. 1 food chain. We need high caliber individuals to play very critical role in this growth as:*

STORE MANAGERS

Responsible for the over-all management of the store to achieve targeted goals and maintain efficiency and effectiveness of store operations. Male or female; not over 35 years old; Bachelor's degree holder, with at least 3 years managerial and/or 5 years supervisory experience in food service, manufacturing, retail business, hospitals, or other service-oriented establishments and willing to undergo hands-on-training.

MANAGEMENT TRAINEES

College graduates with at least 1-3 years supervisory experience in food service or service-oriented establishments. We also welcome fresh graduates with above-average scholastic records.

STORE MARKETING OFFICERS

The SMART Officer is responsible for planning and implementation of store marketing projects and activities that will: a) increase store sales and b) make service to our customers more personalized. For the position, we need a college graduate, preferably in Mass Communication, Marketing, Management, or any related discipline. He/She should be creative and outgoing, and should possess good human relations and oral and written communication skills.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS (AA – Store Based)

The Administrative Assistant is responsible for the proper handling of the store's funds which include but not limited to the following: Master and Drawer Change Fund, Petty Cash Fund, Cash Sales, Check Disbursement, Computation of manhours and others. For the position, we need graduates of business courses preferably Accounting or Management; not over 25 years old; with at least 6 months work experience in the same field.

Applicants must be willing to work on shifting schedules. Successful candidates will undergo a comprehensive training program designed to develop technical and managerial competencies. Hired applicants can look forward to an above industry compensation package, a rewarding career and growth opportunities.

ALSO HIRING FOR:

Cagayan, Ilocos, Nueva Ecija, Tarlac, Baguio, Pangasinan, La Union, Dagupan, Novaliches

Qualified candidates may send their updated resume, photocopy of Official Transcript of Records and recent ID photo to:

JOLLIBEE FOODS CORPORATION
Human Resources Division – North Luzon
9th flr. - Jollibee Plaza
#10 Emerald Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Or e-mail us at HRD_application@jollibee.co:n.ph

ADB

Fighting Poverty in Asia and the Pacific

Asian Development Bank's overarching goal is to reduce poverty and improve the quality of life of people in the Asian & Pacific region.

Strategy and Policy Officer

Reporting Arrangements

The position reports to professional staff of the Special Resource Group.

Description of Responsibilities

- provides analytical support in development and implementation of ADB's strategic framework and medium-term work programs, covering global development agenda; country and sector programs; economic and statistical data and reports on regional, sub-regional, and country development prospects; historical analysis and future projections; and identification and monitoring of inputs, outputs, and outcome indicators and work of other development partners;
- provides support in formulating, reviewing and evaluating ADB's policies and procedures through research and analysis, and preparation of discussion papers;
- monitors and analyzes regularly ADB's and others donors' operational activities, their historical and anticipated future trends against ADB's strategic goals; operational resource availability and allocation; schedule of key operational milestones; and other relevant issues;
- prepares briefing papers, reports, and background materials for the department and Management as required;
- ensures the availability, accuracy and efficiency of storage and retrieval of information and data required for various areas, including analysis, evaluation, formulation and monitoring of ADB's strategic objectives, operational policies, programs, and operational resource management;
- establishes effective indexing of all data and analysis available within the department, as well as exercising quality control checks on required data; and
- performs other duties that may be assigned.

Selection Criteria

- Suitability to undertake the responsibilities mentioned at the required level;
- A bachelor's degree in Economics, Management, or Public Policy/Administration;
- At least five years of relevant professional experience, preferably including operations experience in a multilateral institution;
- Basic knowledge and understanding of strategic planning, policy and operations analysis;
- Clear understanding of strategic thrust, as well as internal operational policies and procedures;
- Sound knowledge and practical skills in Microsoft Office applications, and advanced knowledge of database management software;
- Familiarity with economic and policy analyses in the context of the operations of multilateral development and financing agencies; and
- Excellent oral and written communication skills in English.

Established in 1966 and headquartered in Manila, Philippines, ADB's multicultural staff come from about 50 member countries. ADB's Headquarters in Manila generally recruits its (national officers or administrative staff) locally from the Philippines. The position is for a three-year fixed-term appointment. ADB offers a highly competitive salary and benefits package applicable to local staff. While the position advertised is for ADB Headquarters in Manila, Philippines, ADB staff must be prepared to serve in any location outside the Headquarters at the discretion of Management.

Apply electronically, quoting Ref. No. EXT-N004-031(4) and job title on subject line and attaching application form available on http://www.adb.org/Employment/appform.asp to e-mail address:CS-jobs@adb.org by 12 March 2004.

Human Resources Division
Asian Development Bank
P.O. Box 789,0980 Manila Philippines

Applications lacking the job reference number and job title or using the wrong e-mail address will not be considered.

Catherine A. Sas
BARRISTER & SOLICITOR
IMMIGRATION LAW CENTRE

Immigrating to Canada

RENY DE LOS REYES
Immigration Consultant

CATHERINE SAS
Barrister and Solicitor

Ms. Catherine Sas will be coming to Manila for consultations regarding immigration to Canada on Friday, March 5 and Saturday, March 6, 2004. To book your consultation appointment, please call Mr. Reny de los Reyes at (02)-821-5030 or (02)-776-5227. Ms. Sas will be meeting with clients in Manila at the Business Centre of the Intercontinental Hotel in Makati.

CONSULTATION FEE: Php 1,000.00

LOS ANGELES
Tel. 310-.966.180

VANCOUVER
Toll Free: 1.888.689.5445

PARKSVILLE
Tel: 250.954.1988

#501-134 Abbott Street, Vancouver, B.C. Canada V6B 2K4
Tel: (604) 689-5444 Fax: (604) 689-5666
E-mail: casas@axionet.com Web:www.canadian-visa-lawyer.com

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visit us at www.jobmarketonline.com

MONA LISA may have one of the world's famous smiles, but frankly, you don't find that impish smile as anything special. Fact is, you find your Lola's toothless grin more charming.

If you have this same critical attitude toward art, then send an artistically written letter to SIBS Publishing House. Boast about your intelligence. Mention your personality traits that make you a good researcher. Cite your editing experience and other qualities which you think would make you a worthy **ART EDITOR**. You don't need to paint a masterpiece, but you've got to have an eye for one.

As **ART EDITOR** you will be tasked to tell Leonardo da Vinci to revise his work and make Mona Lisa's smile more apt to the subject matter. If da Vinci snubs your instruction, you have to be prepared to nag, cajole, or threaten him, or look for other sources and hope that your resourcefulness and creativity will land you that elusive work of art.

We would like the **ART EDITOR** to be computer savvy as well, so please send all correspondences via e-mail to

sibsbook@info.com.ph

If it can't be helped, send applications via snail mail to

SIBS PUBLISHING HOUSE, INC.

SIBS Publishing House
8/F, Globe Telecom Plaza II
Pioneer Highlands, Pioneer cor. Madison Sts.
1552 Mandaluyong City

For immediate hiring

TECHNICAL SALES REPRESENTATIVE

- ☐ Graduate of Chemistry, Chemical Engineering, Food Technology, or Medical Technology
- ☐ With pleasing personality and good communication skills
- ☐ Aggressive, dynamic, and willing to do field work
- ☐ Experience in sales is an advantage but not required

Please send resumé to:

UNI-PHIL DANZEN INC.
12 Record Extension GSIS Village
Project 8, Quezon City 1106
Tel. No. 929-2046

Or you can e-mail it at: uniphil_danzen@hotmail.com

MARKETING / SALES AGENTS

We are a five-year old company that has made its mark in the remanufacture and reconditioning of trucks and equipment. We are known in the industry for our dynamism, professionalism, and our outstanding track record.

We are looking for marketiing/sales agents who will comprise our 2004 Sales Training Program. We offer attractive commission packages, professional marketing and management support, training, and other benefits.

Please submit application letter and comprehensive resumé at our office and showroom at 933 EDSA, Quezon City, or fax to 410-9224 / 927-1735 or send by email to: glctruck@yahoo.com

Are you up for the challenge?

Global Sources (Nasdaq: GSOL) creates and facilitates global trade between buyers and suppliers, by providing the right information, at the right time, in the right format. Our integrated sourcing and marketing solutions enable importers to buy, and exporters to sell, more effectively and profitably.

Our winning team of 1,800 people worldwide is skilled, tech-savvy and thrives in a dynamic, cross-cultural environment. If this sounds like you, then we are currently looking for:

Page Developer

The page developer will be directly involved in the development and maintenance of the Global Sources sites with focus on the content management tool, TeamSite. You must have at least 2 years hands-on experience in content management and maintenance of websites. You should be proficient with HTML coding and familiar with XML, JavaScript, JSP, Perl and server side scripting. You should have working knowledge of a Unix and database environment, server set-up, ftp, telnet, Visual Basic, PhotoShop and MS Office applications. Knowledge of Web development and browser compatibility issues would be an advantage. You should be detail-oriented, flexible and can deliver outstanding results on time.

A competitive remuneration package and a truly challenging, international and dynamic work environment awaits the right candidate. Interested parties should send their resume and contact details to any of the following:

Corporate Human Resources
Online: www.globalsources.com/careers
Email: gshr@globalsources.com
Fax: (632) 892 4087
Post: P.O. Box 457, MCPO, Makati City

global sources
www.globalsources.com

ZEST-O
CORPORATION
A Leading Filipino Food & Beverage Company
NEEDS:

PRODUCT / BRAND MANAGER

- Male/Female, 21-25 years old, College Graduate with good oral and written communication skills, computer literate
- Must have at least 1 to 2 years of Brand Management experience
- Organized, analytical, aggressive and results oriented
- A team player, can work with people in all levels

SALES SUPERVISOR

- College Graduate, with good oral and written communication skills
- Have at least 2 years sales supervisory experience
- Must be aggressive and results oriented
- Can drive with a valid driver's license
- Willing to travel and be assigned in different areas

BRAND TRAINEE

- Male/Female, 21-22 years old
- Fresh graduate of any 4-year course with good academic record and active in extra-curricular activities
- With good oral and written communication skills
- A team player, can work with people in all levels
- Organized, analytical and results oriented
- Willing to travel in the province for trade check
- Computer literate

Interested applicants can mail their resumé with most recent I.D. picture to the address stated hereunder. Please indicate position being applied for. Only qualified applicants will be scheduled for interview.

MARKETING DEPARTMENT
ZEST-O CORPORATION
574 EDSA, Caloocan City 1400

FOR IMMEDIATE EMPLOYMENT!

SENIOR MERCHANDISER

- Female not more than 45 years old. Graduate of any 4-year course with at least 3 years extensive experience as merchandiser in a garments manufacturing company
- Knowledgeable in sourcing & prod dev. (like fit & prod sample), costing, consumption & pattern development
- Should be a pro-active & result oriented individual
- Preferably handled GAP, WEAR ME and WALMART accounts

MARKETING MANAGERS

- Female, not more than 45 years old. Graduate of any 4-year course, preferably with experience in a garments company/household appliances/food chemicals

SENIOR INDUSTRIAL ENGINEER

- Female, not more than 45 years old. Graduate of Industrial Engineer, with at least 3 years experience in a garments company

Apply personally at:

#99 Ma. Clara St., Banawe, Q.C.
(near Orthopedic Hospital) Tel. No. 7415588 loc. 113
Email: smtc@info.com.ph/hrdsmtc@yahoo.com

A well-established security agency operating nationwide needs:

TYPIST/STENOGRAPHER

- MALE, 25 YEARS OLD AND ABOVE
- GRADUATE OF A FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE COURSE.
- WITH TYPING SPEED OF 45 WPM AND STENO AT 60 WPM

Qualified applicants may apply in writing or in person with recent photo to:

P.O. Box 1295, Manila
or
CATALINA SECURITY AGENCY
626 G. ARANETA AVE., QUEZON CITY
(in front of Funerana Paz)

STRATEGYTEL
(Incorporated as Pacific Continental Strategies, Inc.)

STRATEGYTEL is a full-service outsourced contact center dedicated to providing superior value to our clients. We continually strive to exceed our Client's expectations by being more than just a typical outsourcer who provides a product, instead, we provide solutions.

WE EXTEND THE BEST OFFER TO PEOPLE WHO CAN DELIVER!

500 International Call Center Representatives
(Code: I-ICCR)

Guaranteed Monthly Base Pay: PhP 15,000.00
(starting salary)
Exclusive of Transportation Allowance, Rice Subsidy, and UNLIMITED Commissions

- Preferably a graduate of any college course; undergraduates are welcome to apply
- Must have excellent communication skills in English
- With or without Call Center experience
- Shall be required to work on graveyard shift

WE OFFER PERMANENT EMPLOYMENT TO ALL HIRED EMPLOYEES

Other vacant positions that require Call Center experience

5 - COMPANY TRAINERS (Code: I-CT)
20 - TEAM LEADERS (Code: I-TL)
4 - ASSISTANT SHIFT MANAGERS (Code: I-ASM)
2 - OPERATIONS MANAGERS (Code: I-OM)

Guaranteed Monthly Base Pay, Transportation Allowance, Mobile Phone Allowance, Rice Subsidy, Commissions / Bonuses, and other Company-initiated Benefits

OPEN HOUSE RECRUITMENT

March 1 and 2, 2004

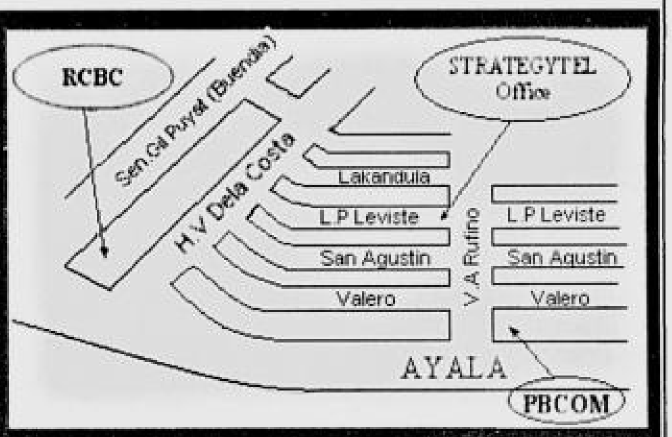
(Monday & Tuesday)
9:00 am to 7:00 pm
STRATEGYTEL OFFICE

Interviews shall be conducted immediately *(no exams)*

JOB OFFER within the same day

Successful candidates will be asked to start as soon as possible

Come in business attire with your updated resume. Follow the directions on the map. →



We welcome all graduating students. Priority shall be given to candidates who are willing to start as early as March 3, 2004 (*Wednesday*).

Visit us and/or send your resumé via postal mail or e-mail to:
STRATEGYTEL
14th floor, The Peak Tower, 107 L.P. Leviste Street, Salcedo Village, Makati City, Philippines 1227
e-mail: apply@strategytel.com subject line: (code:_____)

IMMEDIATE HIRING

ACCOUNTING SUPERVISOR

- With 2-3 years experience in accounting
- Knowledge in accounting principles, practices & financial reporting
- Experience in taxation
- Must possess excellent English, Communication skills
- The ability to administer/supervise still will be an advantage

OPERATIONS MANAGER

- Candidate must have 2-3 years experience in managing an operation department. You will be responsible for managing the customer service, admin. and marketing support involving activities which attribute of the acquisition, satisfaction and retention of customer.

Pls. bring your resumé personally
and 2x2 photo at the address below:

IGEN-PORTAL INT'L. CORP.
G/F Centerpoint Bldg., Doña Julia Vargas Ave.
cor. Garnett Rd., Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Tel. Nos. 6830400/6830401

We are developing a highly creative, innovative team to help us remain dedicated to originality.

Our Clients and the markets we specialize in are as varied as our ideas.

Create, share and be a part of our synergy ... If you have the following skills:

3D Modeler / Renderer / Animator
(experienced in multimedia applications)

In addition, experience with
Photoshop
Premiere
After Effects
3DS Max
Flash / Director / action script

Send your resumé with photo to:
jobs@danksdesigngroup.com

Importer of Restaurant, Bakery Equipment and Snack Food Machinery

SALES EXECUTIVES

- Commerce / Eng'g. male graduates
- With or without experience
- Below 30 years of age
- Field work
- Salary plus commission

QNIX INT'L. CORPORATION
1017 Roman Street, Binondo, Manila
Tel. Nos. 243-6130 to 32

A Leading Eyewear Retail Company
Urgently Needs

ACCOUNT SALES EXECUTIVE

- Male/Female, not more than 40 yrs. old
- Graduate of any 4 yr. course
- Minimum of 2-3 years of Sales experience in distribution to optical shops
- Proficient in English both oral & written
- Well organized, detail-minded
- Excellent Interpersonal & Communication Skills
- Offers fixed salary and commission

BOOKKEEPER

- Female, not more than 35 yrs. old
- College graduate in Accounting
- Proficient in English both oral & written
- Knowledge in computer and experience is a must

FEMALE SALES ASSOCIATES

- Must be Single
- Minimum height of 5'4"
- College Level or its equivalent
- With good communication skills
- Preferably with sales experience

Please submit your resumé at 508-E East Philippine Stock Exchange Center, Exchange Road, Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Fax: 636-3577

A Hong Kong computer hardware manufacturer is establishing its Philippine presence and is seeking qualified individuals eager to work in a start-up environment. We are currently looking for the following:

Software Developers

Responsible for preparation of software development kits, and development of basic applications using smart card technology.

- Graduate of Computer Science, Computer Engineering or any other computer related courses.
- 1-2 years relevant experience using a variety of programming languages
- Experience in a small to medium scale local solution house or system integrator highly valued
- Experience in Linux, Unix, and other non-Windows platforms a plus.
- Able to do system design and implementation

Testing and Documentation Engineers

Responsible for system and device testing on a variety of devices and platforms. Will also formulate and write testing procedures, user manuals, and other related documentation

- Graduate of Computer Science, Computer Engineering or any other computer related courses.
- 1-2 years relevant experience in a related job function

Sales and Marketing Engineers

Responsible for finding potential projects and customers for IT solutions to be implemented locally. Will also need to support existing international market by communicating with overseas customers throughout the sales process. Minor tasks include preparing sales and presentation materials, and improving existing documentation

Applicants must
- Have an Engineering or any IT-related degree
- Sales experience with a local solution house or system integrator in the sale of solutions
- Have planning skills and be a team player
- Be highly aggressive and proactive
- Have excellent written and oral English
- Good presentation skills
- Have a proven ability to follow-up and close on a sale

Interested parties may call 6385732 or email their resumés to monina.manibog@acs.com.hk

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WANTED Building Contractor

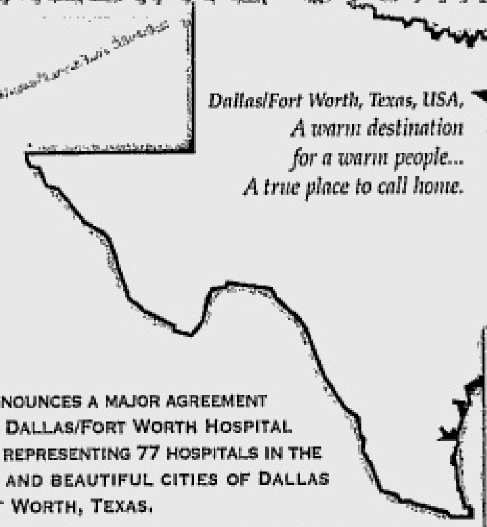
To construct a 2-storey office located at 2263 Pasong Tamo Ext., Makati City with a floor area of 110 sqm. (up & down). Must be able to process all necessary building and electrical permits from Office of the Building Official. Working budget of P500,000. Payment terms will be progressive billing. Interested parties may contact (632) 728-3000 and look for Marcia Miranda.

Send your resumé instantly.

JOB Market
www.jobmarketonline.com

NURSES

IMMEDIATE SIGNING BONUSES!



Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas

HCCA ANNOUNCES A MAJOR AGREEMENT WITH THE DALLAS/FORT WORTH HOSPITAL COUNCIL, REPRESENTING 77 HOSPITALS IN THE EXCITING AND BEAUTIFUL CITIES OF DALLAS AND FORT WORTH, TEXAS.

The Dallas Fort Worth Hospital Council has authorized us to offer the following US$ sign up bonuses:

- **$250** – And pass IELTS, immediately
- **$500** – With IELTS or TOEFL/TSE
- **$1000** – With CG and pass IELTS in 4 months
- **$1500** – With CG and IELTS
- **$2500** – With NCLEX and pass IELTS in 4 months
- **$3000** – With both NCLEX and IELTS Passed

Real Hospitals! Real Jobs! Real Communities! Permanent Hospital Assignments — $20 – $26 per hour; additional $6,000 bi-annual signing and retention bonus; $3000 third year bonus with free round trip ticket home; free use of HCCA's computer laboratory and lending library in Manila; fast processing; and 24/365 presence in Manila and America to assist you. HCCA is your direct employer. No long distance or intermediary relationships required. We are where you are!

IMMEDIATE INTERVIEWS & NO PRE-SCREENING EXAMS

125 ADDITIONAL NURSES REQUIRED

To qualify for employment, you must not be under contract with a Philippine recruitment agency. You must be currently employed for six (6) months in a 150 + bed acute care hospital and working in Medical, Surgical, ICU, CCU, Orthopedic and Ob/Gyn units. You must be fluent in English and successfully satisfy HCCA's hiring standards. Required documents include: resume, college diploma, transcript of records, board ratings, board certificate, PRC ID, updated employment certificate, birth certificate, passport and marriage certificate, if any and any results of CGFNS/NCLEX/TOEFL/TSE/IELTS exams, plus 4 pcs. 2x2 colored photos.

HCCA INTERNATIONAL

Philippine
Overseas
Employment
Administration

Absolutely, positively, no fees or hidden costs anywhere!

Apply at the **POEA Government Placement Branch**, windows P & O, ground floor, left wing, Blas F. Ople Building (formerly POEA) EDSA cor. Ortigas Avenue, Mandaluyong, Tel. 722-1174 or 722-1175 **(Immediate processing and no lines. See Project Officer Ms. Blenda)** or your local POEA office Applications may also be picked up in Makati at the Enterprise Center, 33rd/F Tower 1, 6766 Ayala Avenue corner of Paseo De Roxas. 63(2) 757-1000.

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spi healthcare documentation

SPI Technologies Inc. is Asia's largest independent BPO (business process outsourcing) services provider. We have a successful 20-year track record of serving Fortune 500 and Global 1000 companies.

Despite the continuing worldwide economic downturn, SPI has grown organizationally, geographically and financially. We have surpassed previous fiscal records and breached formerly inaccessible markets. We have staked our claim in new cities, new countries and new fields of industries.

We've made it our business to turn possibilities into realities, threats into opportunities and barriers to BREAKTHROUGHS.

To cater to the extensive requirements of our clients in the global healthcare industry, our Healthcare Documentation Services business unit has an urgent need for qualified and highly motivated applicants for:

MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTIONIST TRAINEES

(code: PDI-MTT)

- Graduates of:
  - Nursing, Physical or Occupational Therapy, Radiologic or Medical Technology, Biology, Public Health or other allied health courses,
  - Non-practicing medical doctors, or
  - Undergraduates of Medicine.
- Ability to transcribe 30 words per minute (wpm).
- Excellent hearing acuity and listening skills.
- Must possess above average comprehension, problem solving and analytical skills.
- Excellent communication skills in English.
- Willing to work in any shift.
- Willing to be assigned in Parañaque City.
- New graduates with good scholastic records are invited to apply.

Qualified applicants are invited to visit our office from Monday – Friday, 8:00am until 3:00pm. Walk-In applicants will be immediately scheduled for exam.

Please proceed to the SPI HR Office, 2F Sky Freight Bldg. C, NAIA Avenue corner PASCOR Drive, Parañaque City. Bring your updated resumé w/ recent 2X2 ID picture, Transcript of Records and SSS ID or E1 form.

You may also send your application online through our website's CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES page. Visit www.spitech.com.
Please indicate position code.

spi technologies

JOB HIRING

- ACCOUNTANT/ BOOKKEEPER – 2 yrs work experience required
- PRODUCTION STAFF
- PRODUCTION ASST.
- DELIVERY DRIVERS

* Residents of Las Piñas & Parañaque preferred.

E-mail resumé to cruzorlando@hotmail.com
or
Mail to: #9 Ilang-Ilang St., Camella Homes II, Sucat, Parañaque City

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BISNES MAMI PHILS., INC.

A subsidiary of Bisnes Mami, Inc. (Guam, USA)
An Auto Parts Distributor

has openings for the following positions:

Office Manager/Accountant
Sales Account Executives (3)
Warehousemen (3)
Delivery Drivers (2)

Interested applicants can submit their resumé to:

Bob Robbins
P.O. Box 2602 MCPO
1266 Makati City, Philippines
Fax: (632) 843-1984

Experience in the auto parts business is a plus.
Successful applicants must start in Taguig on March 8, 2004.
For further inquiry, please call 0927-234-1677

ABM
COMPUTECH ENTERPRISES INC.
"Total Commitment, Excellent Performance for Business Innovation"
A part of: TIG HOLDINGS INC

A well established business solution firm since 1993, distributor and implementer of international award winning financial, distribution, manufacturing and customer relationship management softwares, with currently 400+ installed clients nationwide, is in search for highly dynamic professionals to fill in the following positions:

CRM CONSULTANT

- Graduate of any business course
- At least two (2) years experience in any call center systems implementation and/ or administration
- Confident and with pleasing personality
- Has excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Must have the ability to deal with people of all levels

ACCOUNTS MANAGERS for CRM

- Graduate of any business course
- With at least a two (2) years productive experience in IT Selling and knowledgeable of Enterprise Resource Planning Solutions
- Exposure in selling any of the following systems is an advantage:
  - a) Manufacturing Systems
  - b) ERP Systems
  - c) CRM Systems
  - d) Financial Accounting Systems

ACCOUNT MANAGER for MANUFACTURING

- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree in Sales & Marketing or equivalent.
- At least 2 years of working experience in the related field is required for this position.
- Applicants must be willing to work in Manila.
- Applicants should be Filipino citizens or hold relevant residence status.
- Preferably 1-4 yrs experienced employees specializing in Sales-Corporate/ Wholesale/Trading/Merchandising or equivalent.
- Full-Time positions available.
- Graduate of any business course

MESSENGER/DRIVER

- At least 2nd year College
- 25-30 years old
- Knows his way around and the outskirts of Metro Manila
- Owns motorcycle and valid driver's license
- Pleasing personality

Clientele
Platinum for Windows
BATCHMASTER
MAS500

Send your comprehensive resumé to:

Human Resources Officer
2nd Floor UA Building
135 N. Domingo St., San Juan, Metro Manila
Or e-mail to:
careeropportunities@abm-computech.com

Auntie Anne's®
Hand-Rolled Soft Pretzels

AUNTIE ANNE'S INC., USA

The leading international soft pretzel food chain with over 800 stores in the US and worldwide, is in need of dynamic, assertive, articulate and aggressive career oriented individuals to fill in the position of

INTERNATIONAL STORE CONSULTANT

Responsibilities include providing direct operational, business consulting, and marketing support services to assigned licensed stores; continually guiding licensees and their staff to uphold Auntie Anne's three-fold philosophy and operating standards; promoting a healthy, honest relationship between licensees and the Home Office / Franchisor.

Qualified candidates must be holders of Bachelor's degree in business or related field; with minimum five years of relevant experience; management / leadership experience is necessary; with excellent interpersonal skills; highly goal-oriented, self-driven and can work independently; and must possess excellent verbal and written communication skills. International business experience is a plus.

Qualified applicants may apply personally from Mondays to Thursdays, 9:30 am-3:30 pm & bring comprehensive resume with 2x2 picture at:

PRETIOLAS (PHILS.), INC.
HRMD Department
201 Intrawest Center
33 Annapolis, Greenhills, San Juan City

SGV & Co
Quality In Everything We Do

SGV & Co., a member practice of Ernst & Young Global, and the leading professional services firm in the country, invites suitable and qualified candidates to apply for the following position:

Risk & Internal Audit Professional

- CPA and/or Certified Internal Auditor
- Good scholastic records
- With strong analytical, quantitative and communication skills (both verbal and written)
- Able to work with minimal supervision and a good team player
- Experience in auditing in a computerized environment would be an advantage

Competitive compensation, benefits, world-class training and professional growth await successful applicants. To apply, email your resumé to sgvhrd@ph.ey.com or mail to:

Human Resources Group
5F, SGV 1 Bldg.
6760 Ayala Avenue
Makati City, Philippines 1226

JOB OPENING

TEACHER

Preschool
(English)
Elementary
(Bible, Math, Physical Education, Scout Masters)
High School
(Araling Panlipunan, Filipino, Physical Education, Science)

- BSE, ED/BSED graduate or 18 units in education

BOOKKEEPER

- BS Commerce Accounting Graduate

LIBRARIAN

- Bachelor in Library and Information Science Graduate

All applicants must be of good Christian moral character/PRC license preferred but not necessary

Bring resumé and transcript of records to:

JUBILEE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY
Doña Hemady Avenue cor. 4th St.
New Manila, Quezon City
727-3759; 724-8550; 410-6111; 410-7523 loc. 115

A good package awaits the chosen candidate for the position of...

SERVICE TECHNICIAN

Qualifications:

- Male, between 24-38 years old
- Engineering graduate preferably ECE or EE (knowledgeable in DATACOMM, ELECTRICAL, MECHANICAL)
- Basic knowledge in programming (DBASE, C+ language)
- Must have at least two years of work experience in the field of Engineering.
- Good moral character

Submit your bio-data with ID photo to:

ALL VISUAL & LIGHTS SYSTEMS
Unit C-15 3rd Floor
New Farmer's Plaza Mall,
Araneta Center, Cubao
Quezon City
Tel.#911-0904 / 911-0947

LOSAR OPTICS, INC.

SARABIA OPTICAL

Leading optical retail chain is in urgent need of:

Marketing Coordinator

- Strong in visual merchandizing
- Can conceptualize, develop, implement, monitor & evaluate marketing activities and strategies
- Graduate of any business course pref. Business Administration or Marketing
- Excellent communication skills
- People and customer service oriented
- Experience in retail an advantage

WE ARE ALSO IN NEED OF:
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Sunday PEOPLE at WORK

Contributing Editor Regina Galang Reyes

REFLECTIONS FOR THE WORKING SOUL

Gospel Lk 4: 1-13

The devil said to him, "I shall give to you all this power and their glory; ... if you worship me." Jesus said to him in reply, "... 'You shall worship the Lord, your God, and him alone shall you serve.' "

Filipino migrant workers' temptations

By Bishop Precioso D. Cantillas, SDB,DD

THE LURE of the mighty dollar, which promises "power and glory," continues to attract many Filipinos to migrate, to become Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs). To gain such money even for good reasons, such as improving the quality of life for one's family, requires great sacrifices and an almost total surrender of the worker to the job in foreign lands, which is something like the "worship" the devil tempted Jesus to do in today's gospel. Unfortunately, some OFWs who spend their energies and talents to improve their lot suffer great difficulties and evils in life and sometimes they yield to temptation, resulting in broken families, addictions, loss of moral and spiritual values, etc.

On the other hand, many OFWs turn their misfortunes in working abroad into excellent opportunities for sincere, genuine worship and service to God. In 1989, while on an industrial exposure and training program in Milan, Italy, I met groups of them who were very active in church and religious activities. They organized in May that year a grand Flores de Mayo in the streets of this fashion capital of Italy, gathering Filipino workers from all over Europe (and some European friends). I also joined three busloads of them on a three-day pilgrimage to Our Lady of Lourdes, France. In these few instances, I ministered to the OFWs in Milan, I could feel their deep faith and love for the Lord, leading me to believe that the merciful love of the mighty Lord Jesus continues to strengthen our Filipino migrant workers against further evils, and makes them enthusiastic evangelizers to others. (*E-mail the author at* mfvg@skyinet.net)

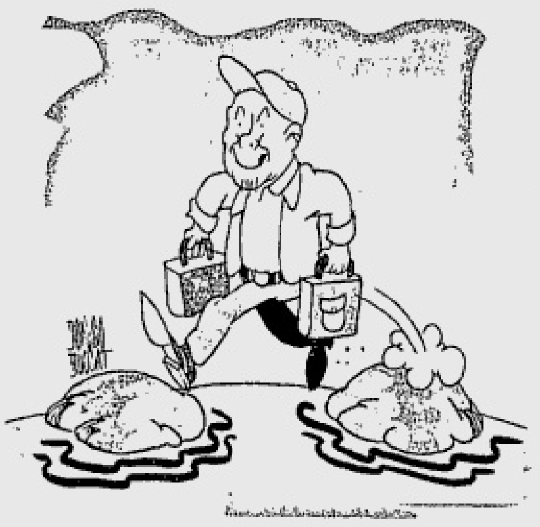
ILLUSTRATION BY DIONISIO BUCCAT

'Deliver us from evil'

By Teresa R. Tunay, OCDS

WHEN I was a kid watching the *senakulo*, this scene in today's gospel was one of those that would stimulate my imagination the most. Imagine the *demonyo*, in flaming red bodysuit complete with horns and tail, trying to bribe Jesus! Even to my young mind then he came across as stupid—didn't he know that the Son of God could not be bought? Why, Jesus could have turned him into a toad if He'd wanted to!

Now that I've been for decades soaked in a work world where Satan's bribing minions abound—and I can now therefore distinguish between being paid and being bought—I still think the devil was stupid for taunting Jesus and offering Him such a ridiculous barter.

Whatever work we do, we're bound to get ridiculous offers now and then from the devil's cohorts in our midst: material goods, success, power and glory in exchange for our principles. They would try to entice us into believing it's all right to dump our work ethics, to cheat a little at work, for a few more comforts in life. They would slip a "tip" into our breast pocket or tuck a fat "envelope" into our briefcase, expecting us to "cooperate." If we refuse, they'd call us *tanga*–too naïve for not doing "what everybody else is doing."

Believing that we are children of God, we need not fear being called naïve for as long as we do His will—then, we can count on our Father to shield or strengthen us against occasions of corruption. (*E-mail the author at* avemaria@csi.com.ph)

Are older workers getting a raw deal?

WORKING WOUNDED

Bob Rosner

DEAR Readers: I cherish e-mail from my readers and I respond personally to every one. Recently I've received a lot of mail from people over 50, who are having a hard time finding a job. One particular e-mail, from a job seeker in San Diego, raised such interesting issues that I've decided, for only the second time in four years, to run her e-mail in its entirety. I'd love to hear what you think of the issues she raises and what you'd say in response.

Working Wounded

Most of our elected officials, CEOs and professors are supported by business, praised for their abilities or looked to for guidance, and are generally 50 plus with little laugh lines around their eyes. These are the same people, that when acting as employers, look for the tall leggy girls or nerdy young men in their 20s or 30s to take on positions of responsibility in their companies. Why not look for someone who is trained, reliable, trustworthy and comes with all the qualities that they hope will develop in the 20 to 30s group?

I am a mature woman, about the same age as Senator Diane Feinstein, younger than Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, slightly older than President Clinton, and definitely younger than Alan Greenspan. If we trust people of this genre to run our country, make our laws, negotiate with foreign heads of State, and protect our country's economy, why do prospective employers have doubts about my capabilities and consider me too old to work?

There are many women and men seriously seeking employment who are being consistently overlooked and perceived as being too old. Most employers will deny even thinking it, and all will deny saying it. They gently express themselves with the statement that they feel the mature job applicant is "over-qualified," or their "current staff is too young to relate ..." Employers continue to complain that they can not find good employees yet they pass over the experienced, responsible, willing, older worker.

Older workers are usually in a stable home situation, will not have an affair with a coworker, fall in love, get married, or leave the company to follow a lover or spouse to another location. We, the women, will not become pregnant, have a need for maternity benefits, or childcare problems. We usually have reliable transportation, a strong work ethic, and have already learned office protocols. We still have something to give, seek to savor the satisfaction of gainful employment and desire the satisfaction of a job well done.

Employers should remember that hiring a new employee is not like being a judge in a beauty contest. If only they would close their eyes and listen. There are thousands of excellent prospective employees out there. Give them a second look.

Ready, Willing and Able

(*Mr. Rosner is based in Seattle, Washington, USA. E-mail him at* bob@workingwounded.com.)

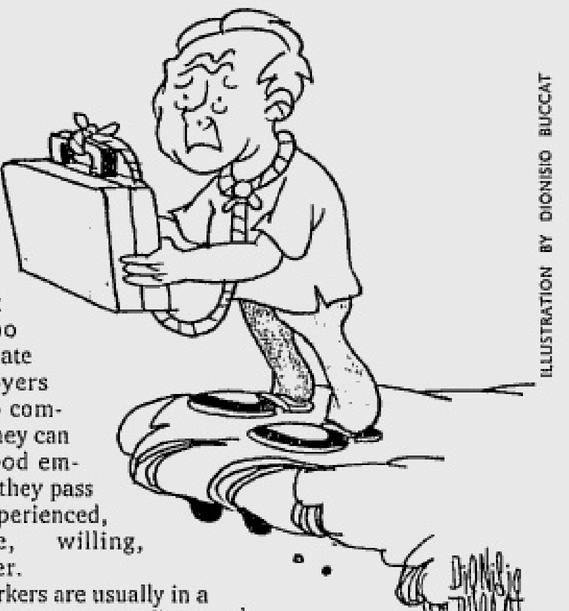
ILLUSTRATION BY DIONISIO BUCCAT

Pinoy accountants show world their talent in numbers

WHEN the term "overseas Filipino workers" is mentioned, the usual images that come to mind are the thousands of mothers, sisters and wives who have left their homes to be helpers in other people's homes abroad or fathers, brothers and husbands who weather the lonely deserts of the Middle East as laborers.

Majority of OFWs do fall under these categories. But a slowly growing number of homegrown talent working overseas is finding a niche in knowledge-based industries, and making quite a different mark for Filipinos around the world.

Christian Rola is an OFW currently based in New York. Over the Thanksgiving holiday, he settled into his new apartment in the upper east side of Manhattan. From there, he walks every morning to the midtown office of Grant Thornton, where he takes on the responsibility of an assurance manager.

Rola is just one of six executives from the public accounting firm Punongbayan & Araullo (P&A), who have been assigned to different Grant Thornton offices overseas.

Secondment program

Early this year, P&A became a member of Grant Thornton, one of the world's leading organizations of accounting and consulting firms and this year's recipient of the "Large Firm of the Year" award in the UK-based Accountancy Age Awards. As part of the membership, P&A and Grant Thornton developed a secondment program, which allows the local firm to send a handful of its brightest talents abroad to provide temporary, full-time services, and undergo training with their Grant Thornton peers.

Rola, an audit manager in P&A and a University of the East alumnus, is joined in the US by Christopher Ferareza and Nelson Dinio, who are based in the Grant Thornton offices in Chicago and Los Angeles respectively. Both are also audit managers at P&A.

A few weeks before flying to California, Dinio said, "I'm looking forward to applying everything I've learned at P&A to my LA assignment, and at the same time, learning about the accounting standards and methods they have over there." Dinio is a magna cum laude graduate of Holy Angel University and the third placer in the October 1998 CPA board exams.

Competent professionals

This is not the first time P&A is sending its own to overseas accounting offices for the invaluable experience and training. This is, however, the first batch of "secondees" that the Firm is fielding under P&A Grant Thornton. "This is proof," Rola points out, "that Grant Thornton recognizes the Firm's capability to develop competent accounting professionals."

And indeed, P&A's talent pool is being tapped not just for the secondment program, but also for the development of Grant Thornton's other member firms in the Asia Pacific region.

Olga Ann Barrera, a senior manager in P&A's tax division, will be spending her Christmas settling into her new–albeit temporary–home in Thailand and her role as tax director at Grant Thornton's Bangkok office. Her overseas assignment is set for three years.

Punongbayan & Araullo
of Grant Thornton International

THE MAIDEN batch of P&A 'ambassadors' from Audit and Assurance: (from left) Christian Rola, manager; Lawrence Cantos, senior manager; Christopher Ferareza, manager; and Nelson Dinio, manager

Unlike the secondees, who will receive training overseas, Barrera has joined the Thailand office more as an expert who will share best practice knowledge with the staff. A tax lawyer with a degree from the Ateneo de Manila University, she got her accounting degree, magna cum laude, from the Polytechnic University of the Philippines and has been in public accounting since 1992.

Barrera explains, "It's a big responsibility for all of us, especially since we'll be representing our firm (P&A) to the rest of the world. We are expected to embody the P&A ideals of integrity, competence, and excellence of service, no matter where we are and in whatever we do."

Other assignments

Barrera is not the only P&A professional currently training Grant Thornton staff abroad. Since last August, Ron Almera, a senior manager in P&A's audit division, has been working as an audit manager at the Grant Thornton office in Vietnam. Lawrence Cantos, a cum laude graduate from UP Diliman and a technology risk management senior from P&A, will start his two-year assignment this January; he will travel to New Zealand to share his knowledge in auditing and information technology with the Grant Thornton staff in "Middle Earth."

As one of the more well-established Grant Thornton member firms in the Asia Pacific region, P&A sees in the secondment program a window of opportunity to export its talented professionals and contribute to the continuing growth of its neighboring members. "It's funny," observes Dinio, "because Filipinos usually look to foreigners as the best resource persons to educate them. But in P&A, we have somehow turned the tables."

While the P&A "ambassadors" are heartened by this opportunity to learn and teach in a completely new environment, they cannot help but reflect on the downside of their latest engagement: they are contending with the reality of celebrating Christmas on foreign shores.

Sacrifices

"I will definitely miss my wife and my six-month-old baby," shares Ferareza, a summa cum laude graduate of the Far Eastern University. Early in November, he left for his 18-month-long assignment as a senior audit associate at the Grant Thornton office in Chicago.

Barrera will also be away from her daughter during the holidays. "I will certainly miss her this Christmas, but she'll be coming to Thailand in January to live with me," she beams. "I think that is something to look forward to, like a belated holiday present."

Despite missing an authentic Filipino Christmas with their families and friends, the P&A ambassadors still consider the assignment a blessing. Cantos explains, "Even if (the secondment) brings us miles away from our loved ones, we all (still) look forward to this journey. After all, not everyone is given a great opportunity like this."

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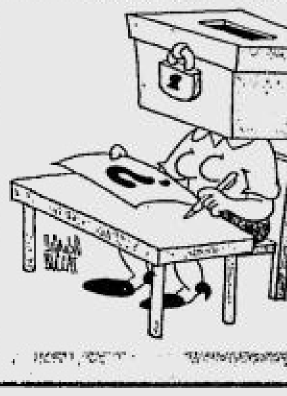

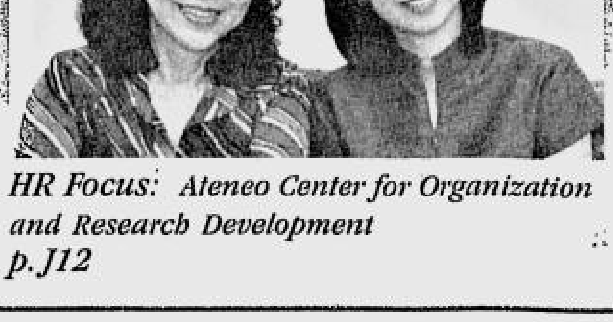

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How to 'recruit' the next President of the Philippines

Advice FOR THE ANXIOUS PERSON AT WORK

By Tita Datu Puangco

> *Our next president needs the courage to do what is right, even though the decision may be unpopular. He/she will need to possess independence of thought and consider the common good rather than the good of 'vested interests.'*

I AM 22 years old, employed with a call center in Ortigas. My request is not about a problem at work but about the coming elections. I am a first time voter. I realize the coming elections are crucial. I continue to read and listen to find out the platforms of each of the candidates. I came across the article or talk of Peter Wallace where he examines all of the candidates. He concludes that no one has what it takes to be a leader.

You are a consultant to many company leaders. Can you suggest a criterion for judging the person I will vote as President? I realize the country can be compared to a business conglomerate. I admit that running a country is more complex, considering how difficult it is to govern Filipinos. I am one of the leaders in a Christian youth organization and I wish to guide the others who look up to me for answers.

Enlighten Me

Your letter made me think. Just like you, I have spent much time thinking about whom to vote for especially for President. I have gathered all the written and video materials I can get hold of. I continue to pray so I can discern who will be the right one.

Best US president

Recently, I watched a film on President Truman of the United States. He impressed me as possibly the best president the US ever had yet he is little known in our country. Why do I say so?

First of all, he was constantly in touch with himself. He understood clearly the issues and decisions in front of him because he did not have a big ego. He listened to others while maintaining his independence of thought. He found himself president when Roosevelt died in the middle of his term. He always thought of what was good for the people and the country. He was a person who managed himself, who embraced uncertainty, anxiety and ambiguity and still delivered results deserving of a President.

Vision

Second, he had a vision of a responsible United States as he supported the Marshall Plan to reconstruct Europe. He had a vision of a great democratic country, so that he was able to forsee that democracy as an institution will prevail even as the cold war was starting to set in. Our next president has to have a similar inspiring vision.

For example, today, around the world, companies are looking at the country as an outsourcing center for services. What are we doing to prepare for this trend that has the potential to create many jobs? Recently, I read an article on India and how successfully the government has steered the country to take advantage of this phenomenon.

Third, he was in touch with reality. He understood when his popularity was flagging. He brought the issues directly to the people. He had conviction based on principle and not convenience. Our next President needs the courage to do what is right, even though the decision may be unpopular. He/she will need to possess independence of thought and consider the common good rather than the good of "vested interests." In my case, I will go for the candidate who is least compromised and with less promises to keep.

One of the real issues that must be faced at once is the looming energy crisis. We may not feel this now but this will cost us in the next five years. Then, there is the issue of poverty and unemployment. Can these be addressed in integrative and creative ways? Ten out of 15 readers who write me weekly are looking for work.

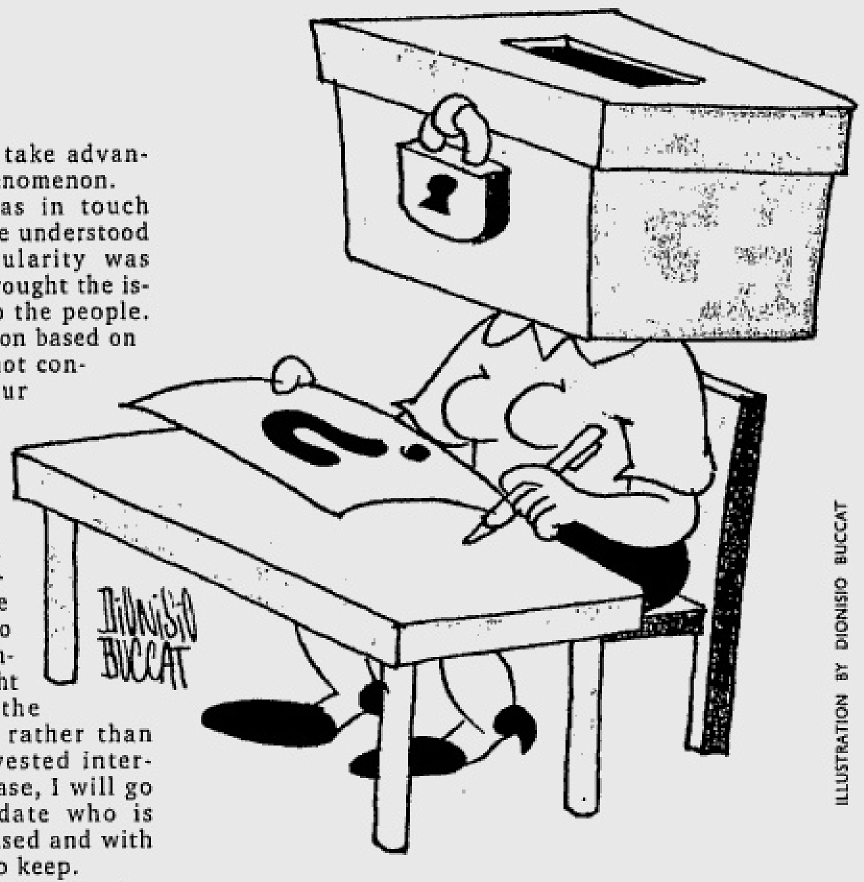
Sensitive to people

Fourth, Truman was sensitive to people. He went out of his way to pay tribute to a person who helped him get into public service, even though people were advising him not to for political reasons. The next president has to hear the cries of the poor and find more strategic ways to help beyond dole outs. Being sensitive to people also means being ethical. He/she has to possess transparency, resist corruption and keep out his/ her relatives from public offices. This also means making sure that justice is pursued for people who have shamelessly stolen from the public coffers.

In the movie, Truman at the end of his term, quietly steps down, takes the train to his hometown as an ordinary citizen. The movie ends with his town mates coming together to give him a rousing welcome. You may say that heroism was possible for Truman because it was the war and post war era. I believe our country is also at war with poverty, corruption and lack of loyalty to our Mother Land. We need a Filipino, intelligent enough to develop a shared vision, courageous enough to sustain effort towards the vision, in touch with reality and sensitive to people and ethical conduct. He/she must also have a heightened awareness of self and the strength to do what is right.

Let us not lose hope. Let us exercise prudence in the way we vote.

(Ms Puangco is CEO and chair of Ancilla Enterprise Development Consulting. Send feedback through e-mail to advice@ancillaedc.com.ph *or fax to 892-2902.)*



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JOIN JOB Market

PROMO MECHANICS:

- Promo period is from February 29 - April 24, 2004
- Promo is open to all Globe, Touch Mobile, Smart and Talk N Text subscribers.
- 5 multiple choice questions will be published every Sunday in the JOB MARKET Section of the Philippine Daily Inquirer.
- TO JOIN and REGISTER: text TQ JOIN <game code><question number><letter of answer> complete name/complete address/sex(M or F)/age and send to 2966 for Globe and Touch Mobile or 3996 for Smart and Talk N Text.
- After the registration the system will send a confirmation message. After which, a participant may answer the succeeding questions using this format: TQ <game code><question number><letter of answer>.
- A confirmation message will be sent after receipt of every answer.
- Each set of questions will have a different game code.
- All questions will be taken from the job placements and ads at the JOB MARKET Section of the Philippine Daily Inquirer.
- Each correct answer will earn the participant the corresponding number of raffle entries.
- The number of raffle entries will vary depending on the question answered.
- Once a question in answered correctly, the system will no longer accept any answer for the same question from the same texter.
- A participant who gets to answer all five (5) questions of the week correctly will earn an additional ten (10) raffle entries.
- Entries will only be valid for a specific week and the other weeks will have a different set of entries.
- Answers will be accepted from 12:00 AM Sunday until 11:59 PM of Saturday.
- The cost of sending a text message to this promo is P 2.50 for post-paid and pre-paid subscribers.
- The prize is P 1,000.00 worth of Gift Certificate from David's Salon.
- There will be four (4) weekly winners and eight (8) raffle draws.
- A total of thirty two (32) winners for the duration of the promo.
- Deadline of submission of entries will be at 11:59 PM every Saturday.
- Cellphone numbers and names of participants will be electronically drawn every Monday, 11:00 AM at Buy N' Text office at 88 JS Galsano Bldg., Shaw Boulevard, Pasig City under the supervision of a DTI Representative.
- A participant can only win once per draw.
- All names of weekly winners will be published in the next issue of JOB MARKET Section of the Philippine Daily Inquirer.
- Prizes will be hand-delivered to the winner.
- Prizes for this promo are tax-free.
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How to 'recruit' the next President of the Philippines

Advice
FOR THE ANXIOUS PERSON AT WORK

By Tita Datu Puangco

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Enlighten Me

Your letter made me think. Just like you, I have spent much time thinking about whom to vote for especially for President. I have gathered all the written and video materials I can get hold of. I continue to pray so I can discern who will be the right one.

Best US president

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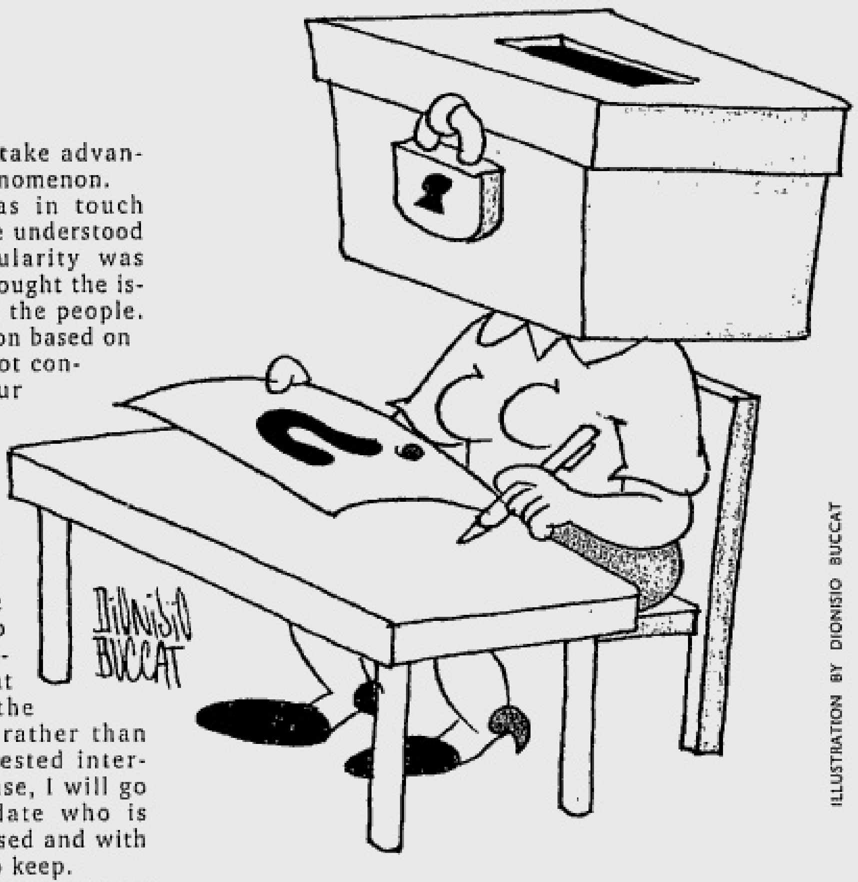
First of all, he was constantly in touch with himself. He understood clearly the issues and decisions in front of him because he did not have a big ego. He listened to others while maintaining his independence of thought. He found himself president when Roosevelt died in the middle of his term. He always thought of what was good for the people and the country. He was a person who managed himself, who embraced uncertainty, anxiety and ambiguity and still delivered results deserving of a President.

Vision

Second, he had a vision of a responsible United States as he supported the Marshall Plan to reconstruct Europe. He had a vision of a great democratic country, so that he was able to forsee that democracy as an institution will prevail even as the cold war was starting to set in. Our next president has to have a similar inspiring vision.

For example, today, around the world, companies are looking at the country as an outsourcing center for services. What are we doing to prepare for this trend that has the potential to create many jobs? Recently, I read an article on India and how successfully the government has steered the country to take advantage of this phenomenon.

Third, he was in touch with reality. He understood when his popularity was flagging. He brought the issues directly to the people. He had conviction based on principle and not convenience. Our next President needs the courage to do what is right, even though the decision may be unpopular. He/she will need to possess independence of thought and consider the common good rather than the good of "vested interests." In my case, I will go for the candidate who is least compromised and with less promises to keep.



One of the real issues that must be faced at once is the looming energy crisis. We may not feel this now but this will cost us in the next five years. Then, there is the issue of poverty and unemployment. Can these be addressed in integrative and creative ways? Ten out of 15 readers who write me weekly are looking for work.

Sensitive to people

Fourth, Truman was sensitive to people. He went out of his way to pay tribute to a person who helped him get into public service, even though people were advising him not to for political reasons. The next president has to hear the cries of the poor and find more strategic ways to help beyond dole outs. Being sensitive to people also means being ethical. He/she has to possess transparency, resist corruption and keep out his/ her relatives from public offices. This also means making sure that justice is pursued for people who have shamelessly stolen from the public coffers.

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Let us not lose hope. Let us exercise prudence in the way we vote.

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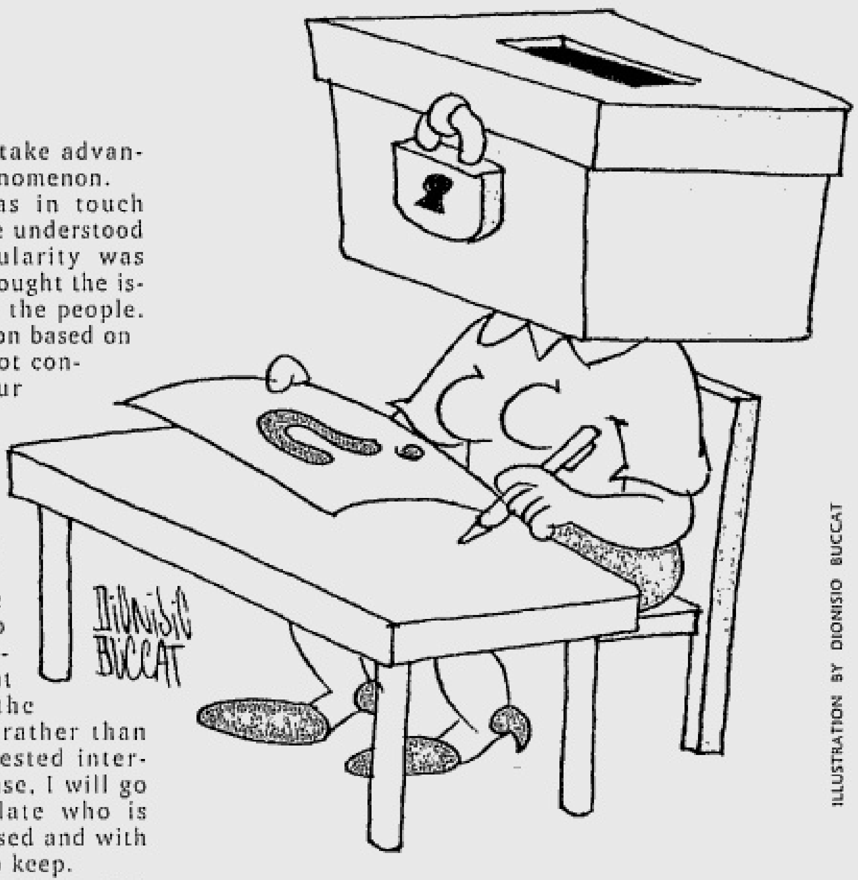

ILLUSTRATION BY DIONISIO BUCCAT

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Ateneo CORD: the HR professional's HR experts

By Cecile G. Garcia

HR FOCUS

THEIR AIM is to be the seat of excellence for strategic human resource management in the country and in the whole of Southeast Asia. This is the lofty vision of the Ateneo Center for Organization and Research Development or Ateneo CORD, as they are more popularly known.

With such an objective, Ateneo CORD certainly is the HR professional's HR organization, especially since most of their staff used to be hands-on HR professionals in the corporate mainstream. With its academic framework and association with a distinguished institute of learning, Ateneo CORD does have a competitive edge in the HR field.

CORD is an extension arm of the Dept. of Psychology, School of Social Sciences of the Ateneo de Manila University. It provides training, research and consultancy services. "Its mission," explains Ma. Regina Hechanova, CORD's research and OD director, "is to improve the effectiveness of organizations and the quality of life of employees through training, research and consulting."

Holistic impact

CORD, formerly known as Human Resources Center, is now on its 30th year, having been founded in 1974. It was renamed two years ago, in keeping with its focus on research and development. Says Hechanova, "We wanted to put our message across. We wanted our impact to be holistic and we wanted to help organizations, not just individuals." Over the years, CORD has worked in partnership with organizations in government, business, NGOs, the academe and various religious societies.

Catering mostly to HR professionals and practitioners, CORD is known for its methodology. "Our highly qualified consultants are grounded in both theory and practice, and our workshops and seminars are conducted on the graduate school level, " discloses Hechanova.

Quality programs

Very participatory and heavy on workshops, training programs are slightly longer (some last from seven to 10 days) and are slightly more expensive. To further ensure quality, participants are limited to less that 20 per group. Their training programs are a blend of theory and practice, claims Hechanova, pointing out their flagship program, Strategic Human Resources Management. "We generate knowledge, not merely transfer it," she says. CORD, she continues, offers certificate and diploma degrees. In addition, they've recently developed a grading system and participants, especially those who would like to take their master's or doctorate, may use their certificate to enter graduate school.

Training students of the graduate school is an integral part of their mission, avers Hechanova. "We assign them as project officers who assist in training programs or become research assistants. They can take their practicum with us or work for us with pay. We find that they're in demand later on. They become good trainors and competent OD practitioners."

Research projects

CORD, which is self-sustaining, is continuously engaged in research regarding Filipino workers. "We input this in our programs," says Hechanova. "We would like to build up expertise and to create knowledge in order to help HR practitioners in the Philippines." CORD also publishes reader-friendly books on related topics.

"We (CORD) act as a bridge between academe and business," pronounces Hechanova who is well-acquainted with both. A faculty member of the Department of Psychology, besides serving as research and OD director of CORD, she was working with Dow Chemical's HR in the US and pursuing her PhD at the same time, before she joined the center three years ago. Why the switch from corporate to academe? She replies, "I enjoy teaching. Whether conducting classes at the University or conducting workshops at the center, there is an intrinsic reward in teaching that I could not find as a corporate person. Furthermore, I have more autonomy in terms of my schedule. I find that I am more relaxed. The downside is the pay cut. I guess I'm here because of a sense of vocation."

She explains further that her work with CORD is actually an extension of her job as a teacher. It's satisfying because it enables her to help as many organizations as she can, and to have an impact. It is important to have people whose personal values are consistent with CORD's mission, says Hechanova.

Directions

Edna Franco, CORD's executive director and also a faculty member of the Dept. of Psychology, had always had a burning desire to teach and to serve. Even as she went on to carve a name in the corporate world, she knew she was destined to teach.

FRANCO (L) and Hechanova

PHOTO BY AUGUST DE LA CRUZ

Franco was with Philippine Airlines for 13 years, serving as VP for HR management and VP for training. She also worked with the Mandarin Oriental Hotel as HR director for one year, and stayed in Jakarta for four years where she was HR director of an Indonesian firm. She was about to set up her own consultancy office when her mentors Patricia Licuanan and Dr. Honey Carandang offered her the position of the executive director of CORD. That was in April 2001.

Essentially, Franco's job is to set the direction for CORD. "I also liaise with the management board which supervises the center," she explains. "Understandably, there are certain expectations, but they give us space. The board ensures that we move along the direction of our mission." The management board is composed of school administrators, including the dean of the School of Social Sciences and the chairman of the Dept. of Psychology. Former executive directors of CORD are board members as well.

Collegial culture

Changing careers was a challenge, says Franco. "Moving to the academe where the rules of the game were very different was a humbling experience. At first, it seemed my 30 years in HR and wealth of experience as a corporate person were not enough," she asserts.

But both aspects of her newfound career have turned out to be quite rewarding. Says Franco, "I'm greatly motivated by my students at the university, and being at the helm of the center, conducting workshops and developing professionals are always stimulating." The culture at CORD, she adds, is collegial. There is marked absence of the tension and competitiveness usually found in a corporate environment.

Franco, who's working on her PhD, is aware that her principal task is to make certain that the center continues to be on the cutting edge of training, research and consultancy. "We would like to educate line managers in the area of HR and to further uplift HR practice in the country. We would like to see HR practitioners use methodology that affirms the values of individuals and organizations."

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- With Bachelor's Degree in Psychology, Behavioral Science or its related course
- With 2-4 years experience in recruitment, job appraisal, performance evaluation
- Capable of relating to individuals of all levels
- Willing to be assigned in Cavite

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

- Female, college graduate, between 22 to 30 years old
- With excellent written and oral communication skills (able to do good correspondence)
- Computer literate (EXCEL, WORD, E-mail applications
- Highly organized

TREASURY ASSISTANT

- Female, accounting graduate with good scholastic records
- At least 3 years experience on cash management, banking relation accounts payable management and some financial accounts analysis
- Preferably Chinese, Manila Office Based

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT

- Female, Accounting graduate with at least 2 years experience in bookkeeping, financial statement preparation and other accounting functions
- Manila Office Based

ACCOUNTING CLERK

- Female, Accounting graduate, 21 years old and above
- With 6 months experience in accounting works preferably in Receivables
- Proficient in MS EXCEL and MS Word
- Cavite Residence Preferred

COMPUTER PROGRAMMER

- Male or Female, BS Math or Computer Science Graduate
- With 2 to 3 years experience in programming and System Analysis
- Should have background in Smart Card Business and Terminals
- Must be proficient in C++ and Java, resourceful, fast learner and with good communication skills
- Manila Office Based

IE HEAD

- Female, IE Grads with 3 to 5 years experience in time and motion studies, production line balancing
- Knows the function of cutting, sewing, finishing, quality control and merchandise costing
- To be assigned in SBFZ, Olongapo City

QUALITY CONTROL HEAD

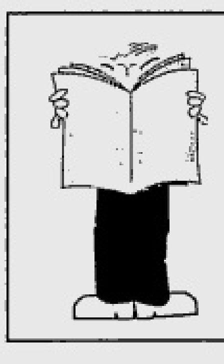
- College Graduate, Industrial Management Engineering, 35 years old & below
- At least 3 years experience in handling woven items
- Actual knowledge of Sewing Operations and Technicalities
- Applicants are to be assigned in CEPZ, Cavite or SBFZ, Olongapo City

INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERS

- M/F, IE Grads preferably of Adamson, Mapua
- Preferably with 1 year experience in garments manufacturing but fresh grads with good scholastic records can also apply
- Applicants are to be assigned in CEPZ, Cavite or SBFZ, Olongapo City

Interested applicants may send their resumé, transcript of records & recent ID pictures to:

c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer
Box No. KA-016-04CA
Ground Floor, Trinity Bldg., #636 TM Kalaw St., Ermita, Manila
E-mail address: cacsbac@pacific.net.ph



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Republic of the Philippines
FILIPINAS EYE CENTER FOUNDATION, INC.
Sentro Oftalmologico Jose Rizal
PGH Compound, Taft Avenue Manila

The FILIPINAS EYE CENTER FOUNDATION, INC. (FECFI), a non government/non profit organization is in need of:

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT COORDINATOR (I)

on a full time basis who will

- coordinate and assist in the procurement management of Medical Equipment and accessories;
- assist in the supply contract administration;
- manage supply installation;
- provide special technical assistance to the Foundation

CANDIDATE'S BACKGROUND:

1. Filipino citizen
2. Has experience in dealing with public and private institutions
3. With good interpersonal and communication skills
4. Has initiative, team player, pro-active attitude
5. Reliable and can work with minimum supervision

OBLIGATORY REQUIREMENTS:

1. College degree holder
2. Has 3 years of experience in preparing and conducting equipment procurement (preferably opthalmology equipment) and in equipment/construction interface, move-in plan preparation and implementation
3. Experience in development cooperation project is an advantage
4. Fluent in development skills in English
5. Relevant references should be included in the resumé

Please send your documented comprehensive resumé and references with complete data to **The Project Management Unit, Nurses' Home, PGH Compound, Taft Ave., Manila from 01 to 19 March 2004, e-mail it feefi@I-manila.com.ph or fax it to tel. number (02) 4000-120.**

(Sgd.) MARITA V.T. REYES, MD
President, FECFI

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CALL CENTER AGENTS

Requirements:

- With at least 2 years college education in any field.
- With Excellent English Communication skills .
- Customer-oriented, highly motivated .
- Computer literate & with internet savvy.
- Can work under pressure .
- Willing to work on night shift and during holidays.
- Applicants must be willing to work in Makati City.
- Full-time (All shifts) & Part-time (day shift only) positions available.
- Working students are welcome to apply.
- Can start work Immediately.

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Requirements:

- The candidate must be a REGISTERED NURSE.
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- Ability to work in a multi-tasked work environment.
- Night person who welcomes shifts and holiday work
- Computer literate.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Requirements:

- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree in any field.
- Female, 21 to 28 years old
- Applicants must be willing to work in Makati City.
- Applicants should be Filipino citizens or hold relevant residence status.
- Preferably 1-4 yrs experienced employees specializing in purchasing, logistics and administrative service.

RECEPTIONIST

Requirements:

- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree in any field.
- Applicants must be willing to work in Makati
- At least 6 months experience in the same capacity or responsibility
- Applicants must be willing to work on shifting or graveyard schedule
- Computer literate
- Should have good interpersonal skills and with pleasing personality
- Must have excellent English conversational

Interested Applicants are requested to e-mail their resumé to:
hrd@acspacific.com** or mail to **ALL ASIA CUSTOMER SERVICES, INC.
9th Floor, Citibank Center, 8741 Paseo de Roxas cor. Villar St.,
Salcedo Village, Makati City

SO-EN GARMENT CORPORATION

The leading manufacturer in the garment industry invites highly competent and result oriented candidates as a part of its team as:

SALES MANAGER

- Male, not more than 40 years old. Graduate of any four-year course preferably Business or Marketing course; Minimum of 5 years related experience, 3 years of which in Managerial capacity; Excellent communication, selling, time-management, human relations, presentation and organization skills; Must be able to meet the Corporate Objectives of the Company through accurate Sales Forecast & efficient Sales Management; Ability to develope specific Sales Plans & pro-active strategies & campaigns; Professional appearance and presentation is required and should possess valid driver's license

WAREHOUSE SUPERVISOR

- Male/Female, not more than 35 years old, graduate of B.S. Industrial Engineering; With strong leadership, problem solving, decision making and communication skills; Handled inventory control management in a supervisory capacity for at least two (2) years; Computer literate

SALES REPRESENTATIVE

- Male, not more than 30 years old; College level; Minimum of 3 years experience in Sales; Possess effective communication & selling skills; Must be able to promote efficient customer relations to all clients and introduce new product lines; Ability to maintain/establish new accounts to ensure sales growth; Aggressive and has the strong ability to influence potential customers

PROGRAMMER

- Male/Female, not more than 30 years old; At least two (2) years, relevant experience in industrial set-up, SQL Server, Power Builder, Recital FoxPro for DOS, Visual FoxPro, Visual 5.6 Programming & MS Exchange; Administer data base management in an HR UNIX and WINDOWS NT 4.0; Must be able to provide technical and network support; With knowledge in hardware troubleshooting; Preferably with work experience in System Analysis and Design

PRODUCT MERCHANDISER

- Female, not more than 35 years old, graduate of any four-year course. Must have at least 3 years related experience as a Merchandiser preferably for lingerie; With knowledge in buying/sourcing, pricing, inventory control and product development; Sales-oriented; with very good oral and written communication skills and relate well at all levels of the organization

GRAPHIC/CREATIVE ARTIST

- Male/Female, not more than 28 years old; Fine Arts graduate of any related course; For Graphic Artist, at least 3 years solid experience is required and must be able to prepare and create latest graphic designs for underwear packaging, labels and promo materials. For Creative Artist, experience is not required however candidate must be highly creative and talented in making various artworks such as floral and embroidery designs; Knowledge in PC or Machintosh graphic software and we-based graphic applications such as Photoshop, Freehand and the likes are necessary

ELECTRICIAN

- Male, not more than 35 years old; With college background or vocational course in a related field; Must have at least 2 years related work experience; Preferably with knowledge in motor-rewinding and air-con repair

Qualified applicants may apply personally and bring resumé with 2x2 picture at:

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The candidate for this position should have:

- **3 – 5 years experience in the design, costing, execution, interpretation and reporting of both qualitative market research studies**
- **Experience in quantitative survey design, survey data analysis and graphical reporting and business-to-business market**
- **With a proven track record in designing, conducting, and analyzing focus groups and in-depth interviews**
- **Must have excellent verbal and written communication skills**
- **Proficient in the use of MS Office Applications and with exposure with SPSS, SAS and/or Quanvert would be a plus**
- **At a minimum BA or BS degree required, in Business, Political Science, Statistics, Marketing, Economics, Sociology, Psychology or any related field/equivalent experience**

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Please send resumé with picture and transcript of records at:

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Unit 110
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  - To handle all interview logistics – schedule candidates and interviewers, coordinate interview days as appropriate
  - To help prepare and send out letters and invitations to candidates
  - To help with logistics for all recruiting events such as campus days

Your profile:

- Undergraduate degree from one of the leading universities
- 3-5 years work experience in a multinational company or other professional services firm with their human resource group (recruiting function preferred)
- Ability to work unsupervised and take initiative. Strong written and verbal skills with high attention to detail. Excellent telephone manner essential.
- Professional, approachable and confident personality able to work with all levels of staff internally and externally.
- Willing and able to deal with unexpected situations or last minute changes to plans. Able to resolve competing demands (e.g. conflicts in interviewer schedules) quickly and professionally.
- Ability to work under pressure to meet deadlines, whilst still contributing to friendly and fun team atmosphere.
- Basic technical skills such as familiarity with MS Office, Lotus Notes and online databases preferred.

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Please forward a detailed resume with current and expected salary in strict confidence by e-mail to: manilarecruiting@mckinsey.com by March 5, 2004. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

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- Preferably graduates in any field of Engineering

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Please send your complete resumé with photo and transcript of records to email address **nenita_p_gudito@apl.com** or to HR Department P.O. Box 788 CPO 1099 Manila not later than March 5, 2004

URGENT NEED !!!

WE ARE LOOKING FOR A:

DIVISION MANAGER

Who possesses the following qualifications:

- Licensed Sanitary or Chemical Engineer
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- Preferably a certified Pollution Control Officer

We are also in need of **FIELD ENGINEERS**

Please submit your resumé with recent ID picture to:

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2/F R.T. & Sons Bldg.
14 Economia St., Bagumbayan, Quezon City
633-4634 to 35 loc. 16 / 437-5297

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- With previous telemarketing/inbound sales experience
- With strong customer service orientation
- With excellent oral and written communication skills
- Must be able to work varied hours, weekends and holidays

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- With strong customer service orientation
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Qualifications:

- Degree holder in Electronics / Computer Engineering.
- Must be knowledgeable in Assembly or C Language programming / debugging / using IDE's and emulators for embedded design applications and circuits.
- Thorough experience with PIC microcontrollers firmware development and programming.
- Well versed in the use of Orcad / Cadence EDA. Schematic capture / editing.
- Must have hands-on experience in circuit breadboarding / troubleshooting and prototyping.
- Proficient with PCB design using Orcad / Cadence PCB Layout tools.
- Can work with minimum supervision and extended hours.
- Good oral and written communication skills.
- Male or female not over 25 years old.

Design Engineer_ASIC

Qualifications:

- Degree holder in Electronics / Computer Engineering.
- Thorough experience with digital, analog and mixed-signal circuit design and analysis.
- Knowledgeable with behavioral RTL design entry in Verilog HDL, VHDL.
- Thorough and hands-on experience with Altera APEX / Stratix / Cyclone or Xilinx Virtex / Spartan FPGA's for rapid digital prototyping and verification.
- Proficient with EDA synthesis and simulation tools, i.e. Quartus II, SOPC Builder, Leonardo / PrecisionRTL, ModelSim, SILOS, TSPice, Cadence PSpice
- Can work with minimum supervision and extended hours.
- Good oral and written communication skills.
- Male or Female not over 25 years old.

Mechanical Design Engineer_CAD

Qualifications:

- Degree holder in Mechanical/Industrial Engineering.
- Thorough experience with AutoCAD and SolidWorks.
- Experienced in the design and development of plastic enclosures or casings for portable electronic products or similar equipment.
- Knowledgeable with moulding characteristics of various plastic material and their effects on yield, warpage, shrinkage and other properties.
- Knowledgeable with other engineering materials and related hardware also used for electronic product enclosures and casings.
- Can work with minimum supervision and extended hours.
- Good oral and written communication skills.
- Male or Female not over 28 years old.

Applications Programmer

Qualifications:

- Degree holder in Computer Science, Engineering or Information Technology.
- Experienced in designing MS Access Enterprise Applications for MSWindows-based platform and using Visual Studio for programming and debugging.
- Experience in writing peripheral drivers or applications in C or C++ would be an advantage and may be given preference.
- Can work with minimum supervision and extended hours.
- Good oral and written communication skills.
- Male or Female not over 25 years old.

NOTE:

1. Interested applicants must submit a copy of their latest resumé via e-mail to the address below.
2. Applicants must be willing to work, re-locate or travel to Parañaque City.
3. Possible work-related overseas assignment or travel.
4. IMPORTANT: Indicate desired position (as written above) on the subject line for proper routing.

e-mail: hrd@golfelec.com

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Item 2: SALES/MARKETING SUPERVISOR
Qualifications: Graduate of Medical Technology Course
in Marketing or Extensive Training in Sales/Marketing is a MUST.
2 years minimum experience as a Sales/Marketing Supervisor

Item 3: MARKETING REPRESENTATIVE
Qualifications: Must be a Graduate of Medical Technology Course
Marketing Experience required
Very good communication skills

Qualified applicants may submit resume with supporting documents to:

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Suite 708 Richville Corporate Tower
Madrigal Business Park, Ayala Alabang
Muntinlupa City, Philippines
Tel. Nos: 850-1711; 850-1861; Fax: 850-1502

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American Bio-Clinical Laboratories, International

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2 years experience as a Medical Technologist in a Clinical Diagnostic Laboratory setup.
Experience in Microbiology is an advantage.
(INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE will not be honored).

Item 2: SALES/MARKETING SUPERVISOR
Qualifications: Graduate of Medical Technology Course.
Degree in Marketing or Extensive Training in Sales/Marketing is a MUST.
2 years minimum experience as a Sales/Marketing Supervisor.

Item 3: MARKETING REPRESENTATIVE/S
Qualifications: Must be a Graduate of Medical Technology.
Sales/Marketing Experience required.
Very good communication skills.

...we are growing and moving!

All qualified applicants may submit resume with supporting documents to:

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Suite LG-5 Richville Corporate Tower
Madrigal Business Park, Ayala Alabang
Muntinlupa City, Philippines
Tel. Nos: 850-6288; 850-6289 Fax: 850-6287

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Call Center Specialist for Alabang Office

- A College graduate of any 4-year course
- With 6 months or more Call Center experience or in Customer Service Oriented Industry.(not a must but a plus)
- Background in Financial Services is a plus.
- Computer proficient in Microsoft Excel, Word, and other computer applications.
- Flexible and can work during the graveyard shift/shifting schedule.
- Has an excellent command of the English language.
- Is customer-focused and service-oriented.
- Preferably residing in the South Area (Alabang, Parañaque, Laguna, & Cavite) or willing to be relocated. but not a must.
- Able to combine work and play.

Call Center Associate for Technical Support

- With Call Center experience or in Customer Service Oriented Industry. (not a must but a plus)
- Background in basic knowledge in trouble shooting electronic device or computers is a plus.
- Computer proficient in Microsoft Excel, Word, and other computer applications.
- Flexible and can work during the graveyard shift/shifting schedule.
- Has an excellent command of the English language.
- Is customer-focused and service-oriented.
- Able to combine work and play

Call Center Quality Evaluator

- Excellent Communication and Listening Skills.
- Formal, specialized, job-related training with one to two years related work experience preferably in a Call Center Environment. (not a must but a plus)
- Excellent process knowledge/analytical skills preferred
- Team-oriented. Self-Motivated, and Performance-Oriented.
- Computer proficient in Microsoft Excel, Word, and other computer applications.
- Flexible and can work during the graveyard shift/shifting schedule.
- Ability to build productive working relationships.
- Willing to travel when required, willing to travel to another site within Metro Manila and the Philippines.

We would like to encourage interested candidates to visit our office. We are conducting interviews from Monday through Friday 9 am to 5 pm bring a copy of your resume to

Seven Seven Global Resources Corporation
Unit 802 The Orient Square Bldg. Emerald Ave Ortigas Center, Pasig City Tel. 914-4609
Look for Anthony or Arlene Or email us your resume through. afortaleza@77global.biz

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A Multinational Japanese Trading Firm is Urgently in need of an:

ASSISTANT MANAGER

Qualifications

Male or Female, 35-40 of age
Graduate from a reputable university
Certified Public Accountant
Good experience / background in tax matters
At least 5 years work experience

Position for Manager may be open if qualifications of applicant are sufficient

APPLY IN PERSON AND BRING YOUR COMPREHENSIVE RESUMÉ WITH TWO (2) 2X2 PHOTO TO:

ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT
9/F, L.V. Locsin Building,
Ayala corner Makati Avenue,
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BE PART OF AN INDUSTRY LEADER

We are looking for aggressive and competent men and women who shall be part of our Sales and Marketing Department. The following are our requirements:

Sales Manager

- With Sales managerial background for at least 3 to 5 years in any industry.
- Engineering graduate preferred but not required.
- Fluent in oral and written English communications.
- Male or female, age between 30 to 40 preferred but not necessary.

Sales Executives

(5 TO 7 required)

- With Sales experience for at least 2 to 3 years in any industry.
- Engineering graduate preferred but not required.
- Fluent in oral and written communications.
- Male or female, age between 25 to 35 preferred but not necessary

Compensation:

As a company standard, we offer an above industry compensation package that is negotiable upon confirmation of employment. Upon sending your resumé, kindly indicate your desired compensation requirements subject to management review.

Resume:

All applicants must submit a comprehensive educational and work experience resumé with specific job descriptions and assignments indicated and dates of their employment history. Email all applications to the General Manager at either addresses on or before March 15.

- unity@pworld.net.ph
- jcamacho@pacific.net.ph

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GENERAL MANAGER (Japanese Executive)

Male, Japanese nationals preferably with working permit, 30 to 38 years old, at least a degree holder in any field, with experience in managing a company in the fields of sales, marketing, and telecommunication, can conceptualize and develop sales plans and programs to achieve and exceed annual and monthly sales targets thus ensuring sales growth, can demonstrate strong leadership, organization, management, and interpersonal skills, can lead, direct, and motivate employees, computer literate and can speak good English.

PROGRAMMER

Male or female, 22 to 30 years old, graduate of computer programming or any related course, with at least 2 years of experience in database client (client server) and web programming, above-average knowledge in VB6, MSSQL Server 7.0 / 2000, ASP, VB Script, HTML. Working knowledge in JAVA would be an advantage, can maintain, develop, enhance application system and can work for long hours.

HEALTH AND BEAUTY TRAINER

Female, 24 to 30 years old, graduate of any business-related course, with at least 1 year experience in similar position (training for health & beauty products), familiar with different organizational training, flexible and adaptable to a highly demanding environment, very strong communication and interpersonal skills are prerequisites, with very pleasing personality.

Applicants for the General Manager position should inquire by phone at 636-1486 and look for Ms. Myla Mendoza. Those who are applying for Programmer & Health & Beauty Trainer should apply in person and bring resumé with picture and photocopy of the ff: NBI, Transcript of Records, Diploma, Birth Certificate to 28th Floor Orient Square Bldg., Emerald Ave., Ortigas

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INBOUND CUSTOMER [illegible] REPRESENTAT[illegible]

- With previous telemarketing [illegible] sales experience
- With strong customer ser[illegible]
- With excellent oral and [illegible] skills
- Must be able to work va[illegible] and holidays

CUSTOMER CA[illegible] AGENT

- With [illegible] customer se[illegible] orientation
- With excellent oral and w[illegible] communication skills
- Must be able to work var[illegible] ours, weekends and ho[illegible]
- With excellent analytical skills
- Preferably with call center experience

We offer attractive [illegible]neration and incentives

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- Well versed in the use of Orcad / Cadence EDA, Schematic capture / editing.
- Must have hands-on experience in circuit breadboarding / troubleshooting and prototyping.
- Proficient with PCB design using Orcad / Cadence PCB Layout tools.
- Can work with minimum supervision and extended hours.
- Good oral and written communication skills
- Male or female not over 25 years old

Design Engineer_ASIC

Qualifications:

- Degree holder in Electronics / Computer Engineering.
- Thorough experience with digital, analog and mixed-signal circuit design and analysis.
- Knowledgeable with behavioral RTL design entry in Verilog HDL, VHDL.
- Thorough and hands-on experience with Altera APEX / Stratix / Cyclone or Xilinx Virtex / Spartan FPGA's for rapid digital prototyping and verification.
- Proficient with EDA synthesis and simulation tools, i.e. Quartus II, SOPC Builder, Leonardo / PrecisionRTL, ModelSim, SILOS, TSPice, Cadence PSpice
- Can work with minimum supervision and extended hours.
- Good oral and written communication skills.
- Male or Female not over 25 years old

Mechanical Design Engineer_CAD

Qualifications:

- Degree holder in Mechanical/Industrial Engineering.
- Thorough experience with AutoCAD and SolidWorks.
- Experienced in the design and development of plastic enclosures or casings for portable electronic products or similar equipment.
- Knowledgeable with moulding characteristics of various plastic material and their effects on yield, warpage, shrinkage and other properties.
- Knowledgeable with other engineering materials and related hardware also used for electronic product enclosures and casings.
- Can work with minimum supervision and extended hours.
- Good oral and written communication skills
- Male or Female not over 28 years old

Applications Programmer

Qualifications:

- Degree holder in Computer Science, Engineering or Information Technology.
- Experienced in designing MS Access Enterprise Applications for MSWindows-based platform and using Visual Studio for programming and debugging.
- Experience in writing peripheral drivers or applications in C or C++ would be an advantage and may be given preference.
- Can work with minimum supervision and extended hours.
- Good oral and written communication skills.
- Male or Female not over 25 years old.

NOTE:

1. Interested applicants must submit a copy of their latest resumé via e-mail to the address below.
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Qualifications Graduate of Medical Technology Course.
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2 years minimum experience as a Sales/Marketing Supervisor.

Item 3: MARKETING REPRESENTATIVE/S
Qualifications: Must be a Graduate of Medical Technology.
Sales/Marketing Experience required.
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- A College graduate of any 4-year course
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- Background in Financial Services is a plus
- Computer proficient in Microsoft Excel, Word, and other computer applications
- Flexible and can work during the graveyard shift/shifting schedule
- Has an excellent command of the English language
- Is customer-focused and service-oriented
- Preferably residing in the South Area (Alabang, Parañaque, Laguna, & Cavite) or willing to be located but not a must
- Able to combine work and play

Call Center Associate [illegible]

- With Call Center experience or in Customer Service Oriented Industry. (not a must but a plus)
- Background in basic knowledge in trouble shooting electronic device or computers is a plus.
- Computer proficient in Microsoft Excel, Word, and other computer applications.
- Flexible and can work during the graveyard shift/shifting schedule
- Has an excellent command of the English language.
- Is customer-focused and service-oriented.
- Able to combine work and play

Call Center Quality [illegible]

- Excellent Communication and Listening Skills.
- Formal, specialized, job-related training with one to two years related work experience preferably in a Call Center Environment. (not a must but a plus)
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- Team-oriented, Self-Motivated, and Performance-Oriented.
- Computer proficient in Microsoft Excel, Word, and other computer applications.
- Flexible and can work during the graveyard shift/shifting schedule.
- Ability to build productive working relationships.
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Unit 802 The Orient Square Bldg. Emerald Ave Ortigas Center, Pasig City Tel. 914-4609
Look for Anthony or Arlene Or email us your resume through: afortaleza@77global.biz

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We are looking for aggressive and competent men and women who shall be part of our Sales and Marketing Department. The following are our requirements:

Sales Manager

- With Sales managerial background for at least 3 to 5 years in any industry.
- Engineering graduate preferred but not required.
- Fluent in oral and written English communications.
- Male or female, age between 30 to 40 preferred but not necessary.

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(5 TO 7 required)

- With Sales experience for at least 2 to 3 years in any industry.
- Engineering graduate preferred but not required.
- Fluent in oral and written communications.
- Male or female, age between 25 to 35 preferred but not necessary

Compensation:

As a company standard, we offer an above industry compensation package that is negotiable upon confirmation of employment. Upon sending your resumé, kindly indicate your desired compensation requirements subject to management review.

Resume:

All applicants must submit a comprehensive educational and work experience resumé with specific job descriptions and assignments indicated and dates of their employment history. Email all applications to the General Manager at either addresses on or before March 15.

- unity@pworld.net.ph
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GENERAL MANAGER (Japanese Executive)

Male, Japanese nationals preferably with working permit, 30 to 38 years old, at least a degree holder in any field, with experience in managing a company in the fields of sales, marketing, and telecommunication, can conceptualize and develop sales plans and programs to achieve and exceed annual and monthly sales targets thus ensuring sales growth, can demonstrate strong leadership, organization, management, and interpersonal skills, can lead, direct, and motivate employees, computer literate and can speak good English.

PROGRAMMER

Male or female, 22 to 30 years old, graduate of computer programming or any related course, with at least 2 years of experience in database client (client server) and web programming, above-average knowledge in VB6, MSSQL Server 7.0 / 2000, ASP, VB Script, HTML, Working knowledge in JAVA would be an advantage, can maintain, develop, enhance application system and can work for long hours.

HEALTH AND BEAUTY TRAINER

Female, 24 to 30 years old, graduate of any business-related course, with at least 1 year experience in similar position (training for health & beauty products), familiar with different organizational training, flexible and adaptable to a highly demanding environment, very strong communication and interpersonal skills are prerequisites, with very pleasing personality

Applicants for the General Manager position should inquire by phone at 636-1486 and look for Ms Myla Mendoza. Those who are applying for Programmer & Health & Beauty Trainer should apply in person and bring resumé with picture and photocopy of the ff. NBI, Transcript of Records, Diploma, Birth Certificate to 28th Floor Orient Square Bldg., Emerald Ave., Ortigas

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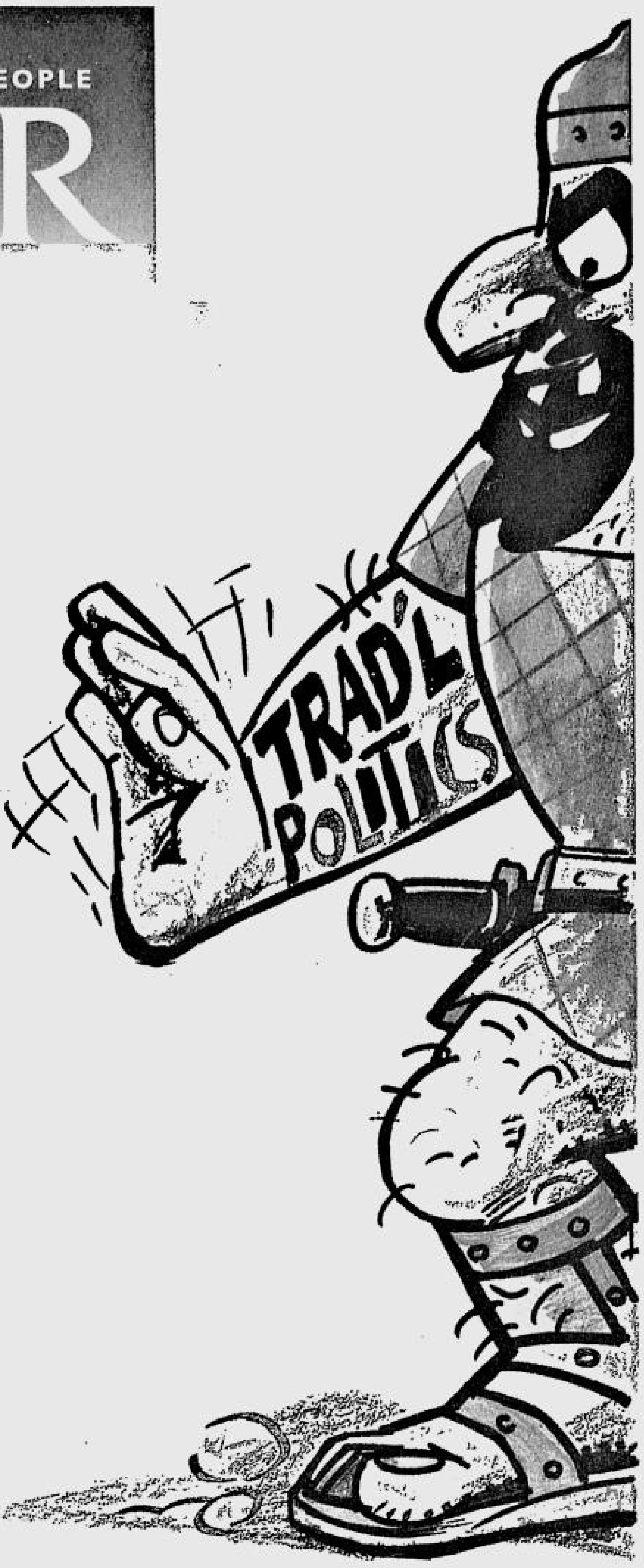
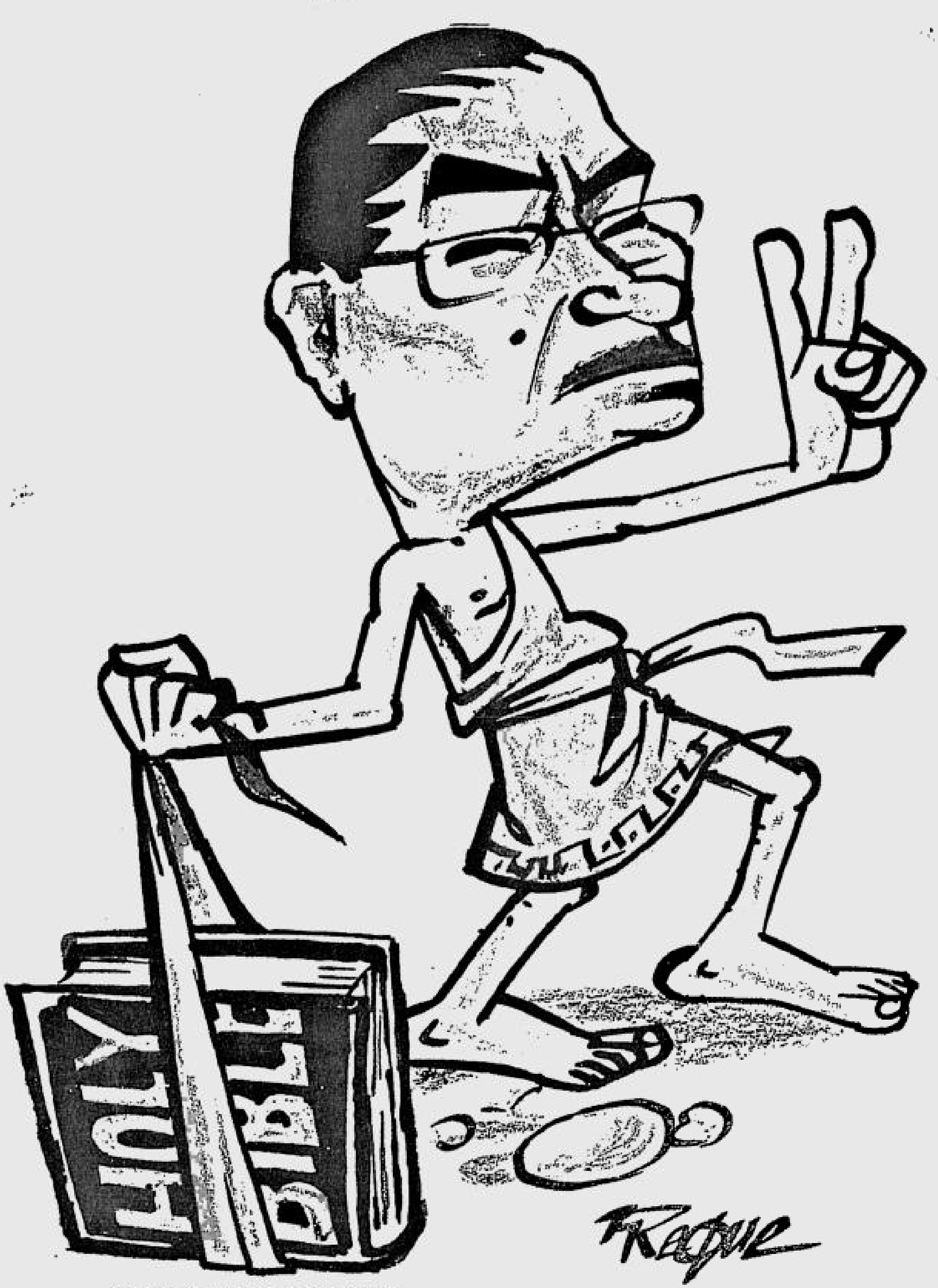
GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE
February 29, 2004

Bro. Eddie Villanueva's 'Call to Duty'





He is running on righteousness and faith, says Jesus is Lord televangelist and presidential contender Bro. Eddie Villanueva of the Bangon Pilipinas party. But are godly intentions enough to beat his formidable foes and the well-entrenched system of traditional politics?

By Pennie Azarcon-dela Cruz
Illustration by Raul Reque

IN Philippine politics, where a mediagenic personality, mass appeal and unlimited resources are prerequisites for elective office, Bro. Eddie Villanueva of the Bangon Pilipinas party stands out as an aberration. With his mussed-up hair, nerdy glasses perched on a very Pinoy nose and the hunched earnestness of the preacher that he is, this televangelist seems out of place in the airbrushed world of national elections.

True, he claims millions of followers as spiritual director and international president of the Jesus is Lord church ministry, gets regular TV exposure via the Zoe Network that the JIL movement owns, and can hold his own in any gabfest.

But a preacher for President? And a Born-Again Christian at that, certainly anathema in a severely Catholic country like the Philippines where bishops might as well camp out at Malacañang.

He is also, detractors point out, a political virgin. Though his sons hold public office (eldest son Eduardo Jr. is the Mayor of Bocaue, second son Joel is sectoral rep of the Citizens' Battle Against Corruption party), Bro. Eddie himself has never warmed an electoral seat, not even in a barangay hall. Can he govern a sprawling, fractious, and in his own description, corrupt nation?

The better alternative

"I'm a better alternative than the others," Bro. Eddie says confidently, adding that the civil society Task Force Pagbabago chose him to run for the post for his "integrity, experience, passion and political will." His background as an economist and "demonstrated" administrative and managerial skills also help, adds this Economics major who took an entrepreneurial course at the University of the Philippines and was once general manager of a trading firm.

He has a heart for the masses, claims this former Economics and Finance professor at the Polytechnic University of the Philippines. "I was arrested for being an activist." As chair of the Kabataang Makabayan chapter in Bulacan, he championed the rights of workers, fisherfolk and farmers, he says.

But taking on the presidency is an entirely different challenge, he admits, one that was thrust on him and over which he agonized for four months, until "the eminent threat of a civil war, in the words of the late Foreign Affairs secretary Blas Ople, convinced me to leave my comfort zone and give Filipinos a chance to make a crucial decision for the sake of the country, their children, and their children's children," he says with the vaunted eloquence of a true-blue Bulakeño.

Over the objections of his family (son Joel even reportedly threat-

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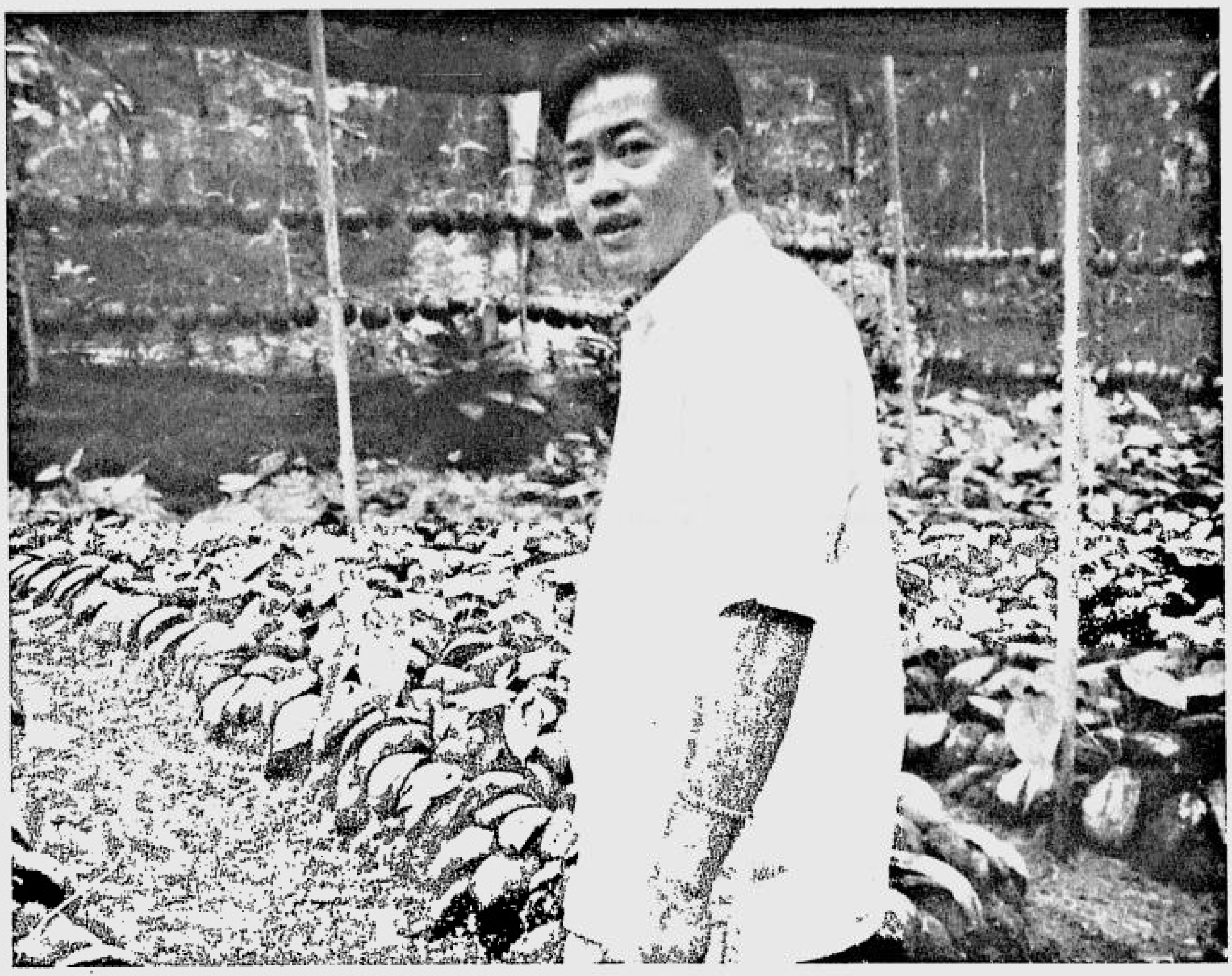

For a Cause

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

For Love of His Adopted Province

IT WAS supposed to be just a three-month stint in 1989 to help set up a relief and rehabilitation program for the devastated typhoon victims of the Calbayog, Gandara and San Jorge municipalities in Samar.

When it was over, Leo Dionisio Hilado Jr. of Jaro, Iloilo went to Cebu for three years and thought he had seen the last of poverty-stricken Samar. He was wrong.

Instead, Hilado found himself in the middle of an ongoing affair with the Eastern Visayan province that has lasted all of 12 years.

He's originally from Iloilo, but after coming to Samar 15 years ago to help out typhoon victims, Leo Hilado never left—and has been working on rural development there ever since

This agriculture graduate from Central Philippines University was just a 28-year-old program officer of the Philippine Business for Social Progress (PBSP) when he first set foot in Samar.

"I was then based in Luzon and handled projects in Bicol, Central Luzon and Northern Luzon. Then I was asked to go down here because of the need for social action," says Hilado, 43.

Initially, it was just to help feed the flood victims. Later, he was asked to go back because of a series of calamities including the red tide scare that displaced many fisherfolk.

Maqueda Bay

The far-reaching effects of the algae-bred malaise eventually led to the development of a program to save Samar's Maqueda Bay, which supports 14 of the 25 municipalities comprising Samar.

Maqueda Bay was the main coastal resource of the province, but its resources were severely depleted due to indiscriminate and rampant fishing.

In 1979, the fish catch was recorded at 78,203 metric tons, just enough to support a population of 100,704 households. By 1991, it had dwindled to only about 33,600 metric tons.

Other ecological threats included dynamite fishing, illegal trawling, siltation from forest denudation, conversion of mangrove areas to either fishponds or settlement areas and uncontrolled pollution.

When he was asked to head the long-term Samar Resource Management Program, Hilado realized that he would have to get used to living in the province.

"It was a signal for me to stay and seriously think about ways to help," he says of the program aimed at addressing the socio-economic and ecological concerns of some 2,700 fishing and farming households.

Hilado could still remember the first time that he saw the province. "There was so much challenge. I developed a love affair with Samar because I saw these vast tracts of land and thought that there was so much that could be done to help the people. I have been to other places and they were more prosperous. I thought I could help do the same for Samar," Hilado says.

It was not exactly hard to convince him to stay behind because he has always had a soft heart for rural development work although he actually grew up in the city.

The third of six children, Hilado was born to a middle class family. His mother was a schoolteacher while his father was a government employee.

At 18, after he joined the school's Youth Community Service Club and got exposed to rural development work, he knew that he had found his calling.

The turnaround

"That was my turnaround," Hilado recalls. "I got exposed to farmers, and their openness and response to what we did opened up the opportunity for me to really go into community development work," he says.

Hilado has not looked back since. He eventually became the president of his school's Youth Community Service Club, which adopted a community and did volunteer work every week. Its members were also involved in reforestation efforts and solicited funds to help install water pumps in Iloilo's rural areas.

While he feels the same level of enthusiasm in his work, he has since realized that trying to change the way of thinking of Samareños to convince them that there are better ways of farming and fishing was more difficult than he first thought.

"The people here are basically happy go lucky. They are still hunters and gatherers rather than cultivators. When the going gets tough, they tend to leave for Manila and come back only when the situation improves," he says.

"The abundance of resources has also made them complacent. The sea was teeming with catch and all they had to do was cast a net to have food for the day," he adds.

Through such PBSP initiatives as the upland resource project and the coastal management program, the farmers and fisherfolk learned other ways to improve their income.

Says Hilado: "We realized that we had to invest in technology development and initially, we did just that in our demonstration farms and technology centers."

Patient man

It took some time for their efforts to bear fruit but then Hilado likes to describe himself as a patient man, a virtue that goes well with his job.

"It was a very slow development process but I have seen positive changes and they keep me going," he says.

Hilado got so involved in the programs and in running the PBSP technology center that he has not found the time to get involved in a serious relationship. He spends about 60 percent of his time in Samar and the rest in the Luzon-based technology development program center that provides technical assistance to places where the PBSP operates, among them Bacolod, Tawi-Tawi and La Union.

"My address is the Philippine Airlines," he jokes.

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That sense of fulfillment more than makes up for the inevitable frustrations that come his way. "Some agencies create difficulties for you even if you're out there trying to provide a service. Some would even pull you down and block the progress of your work," he says.

But he forges ahead, he says, because there are as many agencies that goad him forward. "We have very good working relationships with some government agencies; it's just that things would be so much easier if we all had a common agenda," he says.

Hilado adds that it is heartwarming to know that he has somehow made a difference in the lives of the Samareños. "Personally, I want to complete the cycle in Samar. We are ready to open a hatchery and to replicate the technology in other coastal areas," he says.

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A TOWER OF GOOD FUN T.G.I. Friday's offers a new, hot dish, The Tower—a three-storey dish combo containing Riblets, Buffalo Chicken Strips, and Chips with Cheese and Salsa Dip for only P275. You can order The Tower at Friday's branches in Glorietta 3, Robinsons Place Manila, Alabang Town Center, Quezon City and The Brickroad of Sta. Lucia East. For more of *This Week*, see page 7

Ash Wednesday

Miyerkules itong sagrado
Nang itatak mong unang-una
Sa aking pakumbabang noo
Ang masuyo mong halik; animo'y
Pari kang taimtim na nagpapahid ng abo
Sa panganay na araw ng ayunong
Paghahanda nang may pananabik
Sa pagkabuhay na muli ng bagong tao.
At, kamangha-mangha, naging kay bilis nga,
Kay aga ng aking pagbabago at resureksiyon
Nang sambitin mo ang aking ngalan
At sambahin mong parang poon;
Nakita ko: pagtitika ang umibig; humuhugas,
Lumilinis sa labi natin at dibdib na danga't
May nginig, sa higpit ng yakap nati'y
Nagpapaubaya sa pagbabalik-
Loob sa isa't isa, nililimot ang dating sala,
Tampuhan at hinanakit. Nasabik tayo
Sa dampi ng hangin, ng hiningang
Sa aking pakiwari ay tanging atin lamang
Ang init at pintig. Miyerkules itong sagrado;
Iniluluwal nga yata tayo nang panibago;
Nangangakong bawat araw ay mahal, banal
Gaya nang sa Mahal na Araw, at pagkatapos—
Sa piling mo, kahit laging nakaabang, nakaamba
Ang daan ng krus at kamatayan—di mapaghihiwalay
Pagkat muli't muli sa iyo, sa akin,
Ay may nagkakalaman-at-dugo, may isinisilang. Buhay
Wari'y walang hanggan, hindi, hindi na wari lamang;
Dahil nagpatawaran, walang hanggan ang buhay.

Arnel S. Vitor

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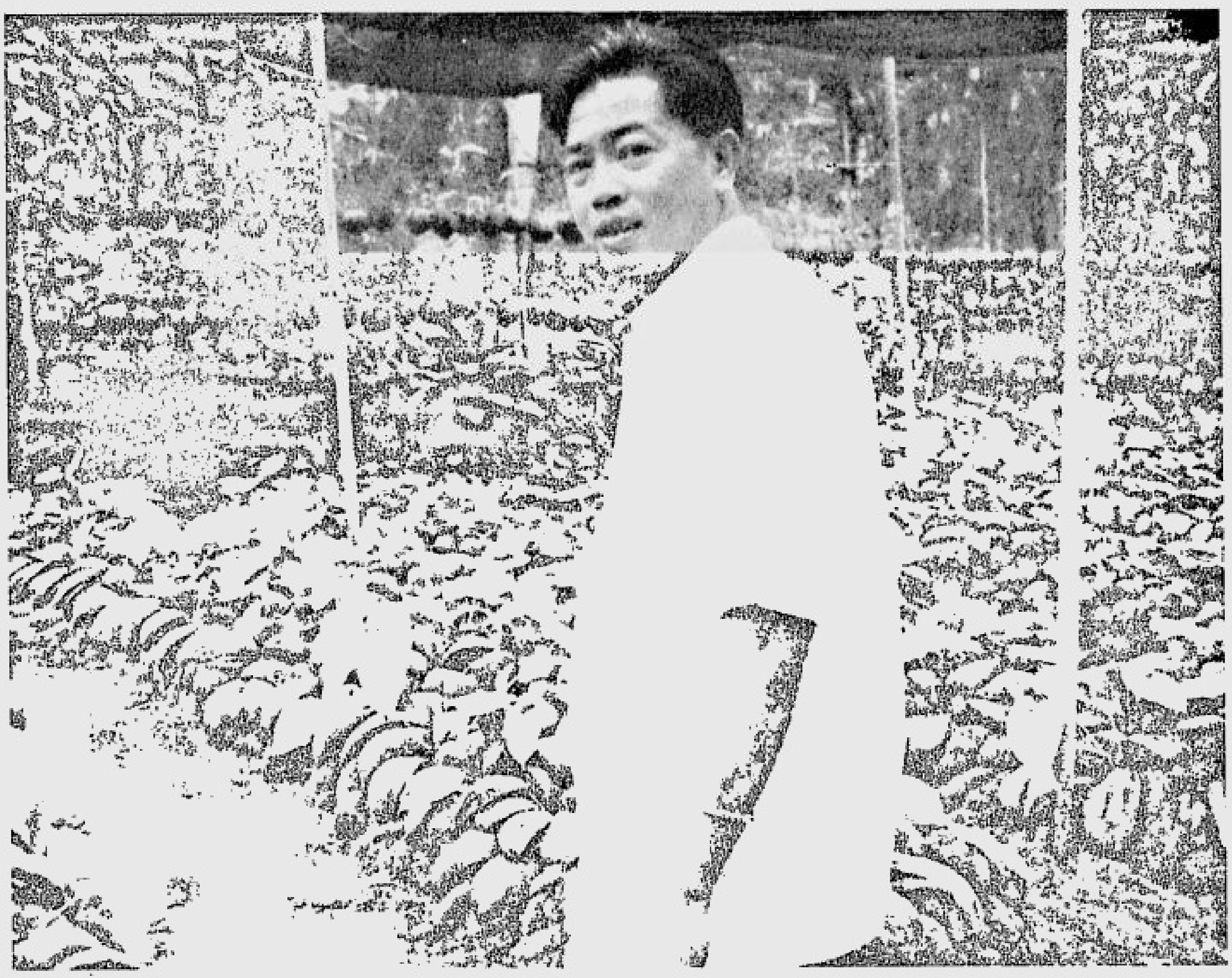
For a Cause

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

For
# of His



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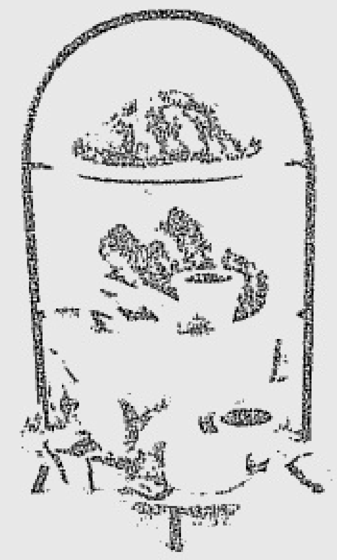

A TOWER OF GOOD FUN T.G.I. Friday's offers a new, hot dish, The Tower—a three-storey dish combo containing Riblets, Buffalo Chicken Strips, and Chips with Cheese and Salsa Dip for only P275. You can order The Tower at Friday's branches in Glorietta 3, Robinsons Place Manila, Alabang Town Center, Quezon City and The Brickroad of Sta. Lucia East. For more of *This Week*, see page 7

Ash Wednesday

Miyerkules itong sagrado
Nang itatak mong unang-una
Sa aking pakumbabang noo
Ang masuyo mong halik; animo'y
Pari kang taimtim na nagpapahid ng abo
Sa panganay na araw ng ayunong
Paghahanda nang may pananabik
Sa pagkabuhay na muli ng bagong tao.
At, kamangha-mangha, naging kay bilis nga,
Kay aga ng aking pagbabago at resureksiyon
Nang sambitin mo ang aking ngalan
At sambahin mong parang poon;
Nakita ko: pagtitika ang umibig; humuhugas,
Lumilinis sa labi natin at dibdib na danga't
May nginig, sa higpit ng yakap nati'y
Nagpapaubaya sa pagbabalik-
Loob sa isa't isa, nililimot ang dating sala,
Tampuhan at hinanakit. Nasabik tayo
Sa dampi ng hangin, ng hiningang
Sa aking pakiwari ay tanging atin lamang
Ang init at pintig. Miyerkules itong sagrado;
Iniluluwal nga yata tayo nang panibago;
Nangangakong bawat araw ay mahal, banal
Gaya nang sa Mahal na Araw, at pagkatapos—
Sa piling mo, kahit laging nakaabang, nakaamba
Ang daan ng krus at kamatayan—di mapaghihiwalay
Pagkat muli't muli sa iyo, sa akin,
Ay may nagkakalaman-at-dugo, may isinisilang. Buhay
Wari'y walang hanggan, hindi, hindi na wari lamang;
Dahil nagpatawaran, walang hanggan ang buhay.

Arnel S. Vitor

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Music Makers

By Eric S. Caruncho

Her Songs of Awakening

Working on her groundbreaking recording of Filipino lullabies has provided actress Chin-Chin Gutierrez with a wealth of meaningful experiences. Today, the music may actually help listeners relive memories and heal themselves

RUDY ESPERAS

THE HIGH priestess wanted three meters of white cloth, three meters of red cloth, three chickens, and eight one-peso coins. Before she could grant this strange young woman's request, she would have to perform a ritual to ask permission from the spirits of her ancestors.

They were standing in the shadow of Mt. Kitanlad in Southern Mindanao. Bae Inatlawan Adelina Dosenostareno was the wife of a high-ranking datu of the Talaandig, and as one of the tribe's priestesses, guardian of its sacred traditions. Even something as simple as the singing of a lullabye for a stranger's mini-disc recorder was not to be taken lightly.

"Instinctively, I felt she was telling me: Do you realize what you're asking me for? You're not just asking me for a lullabye. I will have to pray to ask my ancestors if they will allow me to give you this knowledge," recalls model, actress and now singer and musical visionary Chin-chin Gutierrez.

"Through the interpreter, I said: I'm looking for a different truth, a different reality. I have to experience truth with my own five senses. I wanted to hear the soul of these songs."

In the end, the spirits agreed to waive the first three requirements, and Bae Adelina sang the plaintive *"Dilayen."*

"The song was beautiful," says Gutierrez. "It was a song I had been looking for for years."

Before leaving, she handed the high priestess a release form to sign. Bae Adelina waved it away. What do you need a piece of paper for when the spirits had already given their permission?

'Sa Ugoy ng Duyan'

Such meetings with remarkable men and women form the core of *"Uyayi:* A Collection of Philippine Lullabies," a two-disc set which Gutierrez released last December. The first disc consists of her interpretations of 17 traditional lullabies from various parts of the Philippines. Some are widely familiar, like Lucio San Pedro's "*Sa Ugoy Ng Duyan*." But most are based on traditional songs sung by indigenous peoples such as the Teduray, the Matigsalog, the Mandaya and the T'Boli down south, to the Ifugao and Kalinga up north. The melodies are at once strange and hauntingly familiar. All the more remarkable is that Gutierrez sings them in their original languages, to contemporary arrangements by musicians Bo Razon, Joey Ayala, Tots Tolentino, Malou Matute and Rachel Conanan.

The second disc consists of the field recordings Gutierrez collected over a three-year period from authentic sources that served as the inspiration for the project, partly funded by a grant from the National Commission on Culture and the Arts.

Why lullabies?

"It was a matter of consolidating all my dreams, everything I wanted to do for the last eight years," says Gutierrez. "I finally narrowed it down to music."

Gutierrez is, of course, better known as a model and award-winning actress. Mainstream televiewers probably remember her as Helga, the *kontrabida* of the soap opera *"Habang Kapiling Ka,"* but she made her film debut in the early '90s playing Maria Clara in the film adaptation of Rizal's *"Noli Me Tangere."* Last year, she took a stab at musical theater playing the snake-haired Valentina in the stage adaptation of "Darna."

But Gutierrez has also been a committed environmental activist for the last several years. Her efforts at cleaning up and reforesting Mt. Banahaw as a member of the Mother Earth Foundation landed her on the cover of Time last April in the magazine's special feature on "Asian Heroes."

This singular honor proved controversial in the fractious world of Philippine environmentalism. It also sealed Gutierrez's reputation as something of an oddball in local show business, where such high-minded pursuits are frowned upon. (She once sang a *chanson*, in French, on a noontime TV variety show, which only shows how out of sorts she is in showbiz.)

"She talks to plants! She doesn't want to kill mosquitoes and cockroaches! She doesn't have a boyfriend!" laughs Gutierrez, mimicking typical reactions from showbiz reporters attempting to get a handle on her. In the end, they usually just tag her as "weird." This is unlikely to change with *"Uyayi,"* but with the project, Gutierrez has been embraced by a wider community of artists seeking to plumb the depths of being Filipino.

"She's not strange, but strange things happen to her," explains Anjie Ureta, her friend and manager for the *"Uyayi"* project. "She wasn't even supposed to be born."

Chin-chin's mother, a painter, had been a cloistered Franciscan nun for close to 10 years. Sent home to recuperate after an accident, she met Chin-chin's father—a botanist then already in his forties and a confirmed bachelor. Doctors had told them that she couldn't bear children, but against all odds, Chin-chin and a brother were born.

Being formed from the union of a contemplative artist and a scientist may explain Gutierrez's affinity for nature, and her need to seek out the source where all things converge.

Against all odds

Like Gutierrez, *"Uyayi"* was also born against the odds. Although she had been singing songs in various languages before (among them German, Arabic and Vietnamese) for specific projects, she didn't really consider herself a musician, at least in the beginning. Nor did she know any ethnomusicologists. She didn't know the first thing about recording and producing an album. But she knew there was something deep within her soul that could only find expression through music.

"My heart was being drawn to lullabies," she says. "It would be my first time to sing, so I wanted to start with something simple."

But getting the project off the ground wasn't as simple.

"There were many precarious moments," she confesses. "I was ready to give up, ready to return the grant money. There were so many closed doors. But *'Uyayi'* was like a child, it had a will of its own. This was a dream that I really had to continue. And every time I heard a new lullabye, I said: This is what I'm looking for. This is the dream that has consumed me, that's telling me to go on."

After three years she had collected more than 50 traditional folk lullabies in a dozen indigenous languages, some of them having no written equivalent. With help from the Summer Institute of Linguistics, she had them translated. After that, it was time to face the problem: how to interpret them for contemporary listeners without losing the *diwa*—the spirit—of the lullabies. An early acting lesson from veteran Ruben Rustia, who had played Kapitan Tiago in *"Noli,"* proved invaluable. He had told her: "*Lunukin mo ang mga salita, at iluwa mo mula sa puso mo* (Just swallow the words and speak them from the heart)."

In the end, says Gutierrez, she got much more than she bargained for.

From the Cradle

"Uyayi" means lullabye, and what could be simpler and more basic than a lullabye? They are the first songs we hear, as infants being rocked to sleep on our cradles. But the music opens up a powerful stream of connections: to our childhood, to our mothers, and through her to the spirits of our ancestors and the chain of creation that emanates from the very source of being itself.

"Lullabies are found in all cultures and all peoples in the world, and a parent or a brother or sister putting a child to sleep is a reality that's being done everyday," says Gutierrez. "Lullabies are there, whether there's a war on, or whether there's enough food on the table."

"I guess the lullabye represents to me that time between a mother and child, celebrating what came from God and nature, a miracle in her hands. And when everyone's in agreement that God, nature and man are present, there is peace, there is safety. You can tell yourself, as a parent, 'I can still trust my world' in sharing it with a child."

As might be expected, most of the sources for traditional lullabies were mothers. But there were also men, who, as fathers and brothers, had also sung such lullabies. Some were even shamans or tribal elders. In many cases, the sources were very much aware that they were sharing something elemental and powerful, and only agreed once they were sure of Gutierrez's motives.

"I was in awe," she recalls hearing an indigenous lullabye for the first time. "This is what pure listening is. You are listening to a person, but you are also watching her open her life to you. Her *budhi*, her *diwa*, her *kabuuan*—all those beautiful Tagalog words that I had read in stories and poems but had never experienced before. That's where I experienced what the Filipino spirit is."

Nor was her experience unique. During the album's launch in Davao, a husky young Igorot was moved close to tears upon hearing *"Hudhud Manait."* He said it brought back memories of his grandmother in Banawe, now dead, and how she used to sing it during the village bonfires that welcomed him back from his studies in Manila. So powerful was the affirmation that later that night, the young Igorot emerged in full Ifugao regalia, *bahag* and all, much to the amazement of the audience.

Connection

"Each song finds a resonance with a particular person, and each person has his own tribe, his own community to share," says Gutierrez. "There's always this feeling that something is always connecting."

These and similar reactions from other listeners confirmed what she had known instinctively: the lullabies touched people, and brought them in touch with their spiritual roots.

For her own part, hearing *"Uyayi Ni Nena"* uncovered a long-forgotten childhood memory: of being racked with a fever as a little girl and being rocked to sleep by her father who sang the same melody. It shed some light on her often painful relationship with her father, who left the family when she was about 13.

"Even if I never see my father again, I know who I am, I know where I came from," she says.

Such moments of insights have led the Samahan ng Mag-aaral sa Sikolohiya, an association of psychologists, to explore the potential use of *"Uyayi"* in psychotherapy.

"We've even heard reports of people who are ill getting better after listening to the CD," adds Ureta.

Even now, new possibilities are still being revealed. Perhaps most exciting for Gutierrez is *"Uyayi's"* relevance to her own environmental work.

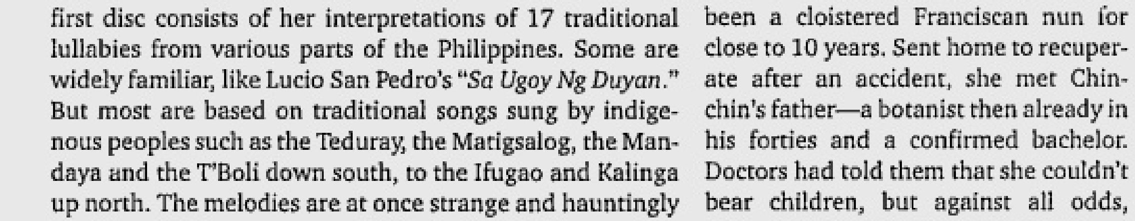
"When you get to know your own mother, your own neighbors, your own people and your own country more intimately, you would care for them," she says. "If you are intimate with the diversity of people in this archipelago, the most human thing you can do is to care for it."

"Uyayi," she says, can be a bridge toward that intimacy.

Gutierrez speaks often of the *bukal*—the wellspring—the fountainhead from which all life springs. It is, in fact, her central metaphor these days.

"The *bukal* is a wellspring of cultural energy," she says. "When it flows, that's when I see that ecology can work…I'm just trying to get water from the wellspring and share it with others."

"Uyayi" *is distributed through Mag:net Gallery, the Ayala Museum and the Filipinas Heritage Library.*

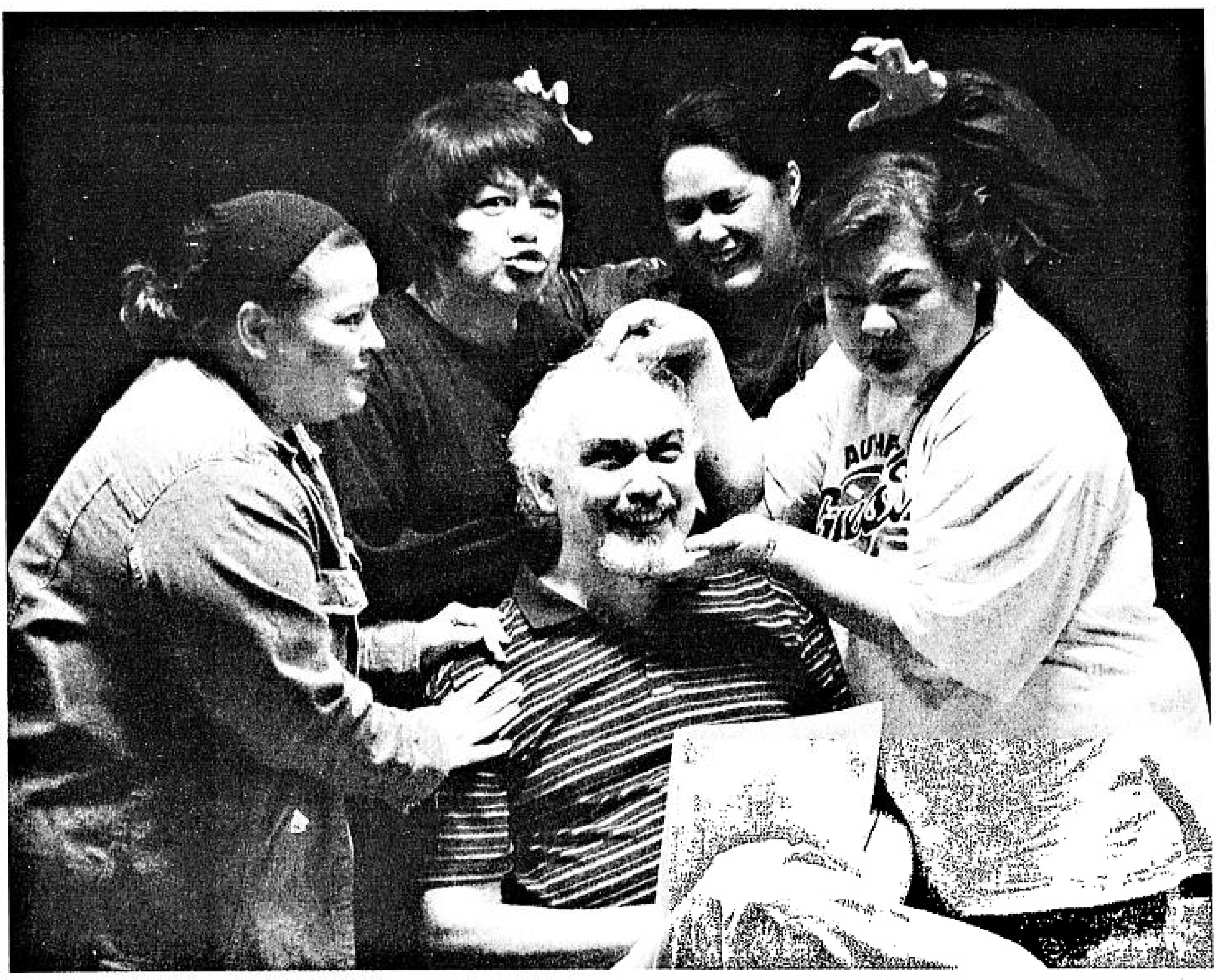

Straight from the wellspring: An Ifugao weaver shares a moment

Theater Tales

By Alya B. Honasan

Photographs by Ernie U. Sarmiento

Taking On the Girls



It's a woman thing: Rialp gets harassed by (left to right) "Menopause" stars Sheila Francisco, Mitch Valdes, Leah Navarro and Nanette Inventor

WHEN Leo Rialp went to see "Menopause, the Musical" in New York a couple of years ago, he was, he snickers, "one of about 20 men in a room of 500 women. The woman beside me, who came with her husband, said to me, 'You're pretty brave coming here all by yourself!'" He also recalls how the men could only nod politely at the jokes, while the women slapped their knees in hearty laughter. "But it was really funny," he concedes.

Now, the veteran stage director is counting on his "outsider's point of view" to give the Philippine premiere of "Menopause" an added tweak. "I don't think it takes a feminist sensibility to do it; a director is a director. I can look at it and exaggerate it."

For "Menopause," currently an off-Broadway success in New York and other American cities, writer-lyricist Jeannie Linders took songs from the late '60s and '70s and changed the lyrics so her contemporaries could relate. "So a song like 'Staying Alive' becomes 'Staying Awake,'" explains the 57-year-old Rialp. "It's a subject all women can relate to, and they're not touchy about talking about it, either. I mean, during our rehearsals, the way the girls go through the icky stuff, I keep saying, 'I don't think I want to hear this!'"

"The girls" are noted singers and comediennes Mitch Valdes, Nanette Inventor, Leah Navarro and Sheila Francisco, who are giving wacky life to the characters. Rialp has worked with them all before; in fact, he remembers being puzzled when he was working with Inventor during the onset of *her* menopause. "She had these mood swings, and I just couldn't understand them! Now, though, I know a lot about it, vicariously. Well, I've got two sisters and a mother and a wife and several cousins..."

Man of all trades

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So where has he been all this time? "TV!" says Rialp, an Ateneo economics graduate who left a high-paying desk job to join showbiz soon after leaving school in the '70s. Rialp has been behind the scenes at ABS-CBN, working with the young stars of former classmate Johnny Manahan's Talent Center. "I enjoy working with young people, trying to teach them the rudiments of acting for television. I like television because it's fast—after a show, it's over, you move on to the next episode." In comparison, with a live show, "you get to really hone the acting, and there are so many elements that you can get your hands into. I like to make *pakialam* everything, from sets to production design to musical arrangement to script."

A life of directing

By his own estimate, Rialp has been directing "my whole professional life, about 30 years." Although his mother sang opera, music was not a family thing. "In fact, if anything, we're more a family of writers; Chitang Guerrero Nakpil is my aunt, and Tagalog novelist Gabriel Beato Francisco was my great grandfather." After school, he was already directing the renowned '70s singing group The Ambivalent Crowd, and had acted for Rolando Tinio. When he first applied for a job at ABS-CBN, Pete Roa wouldn't take him in, "because he said I would make a lot more money in a corporate job. Can you imagine! And I was literally falling asleep at my desk then!" Undaunted, Rialp persevered as a production assistant and associate producer for such shows as "Two for the Road" and "An Evening with Pilita."

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Another talent

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Film is next

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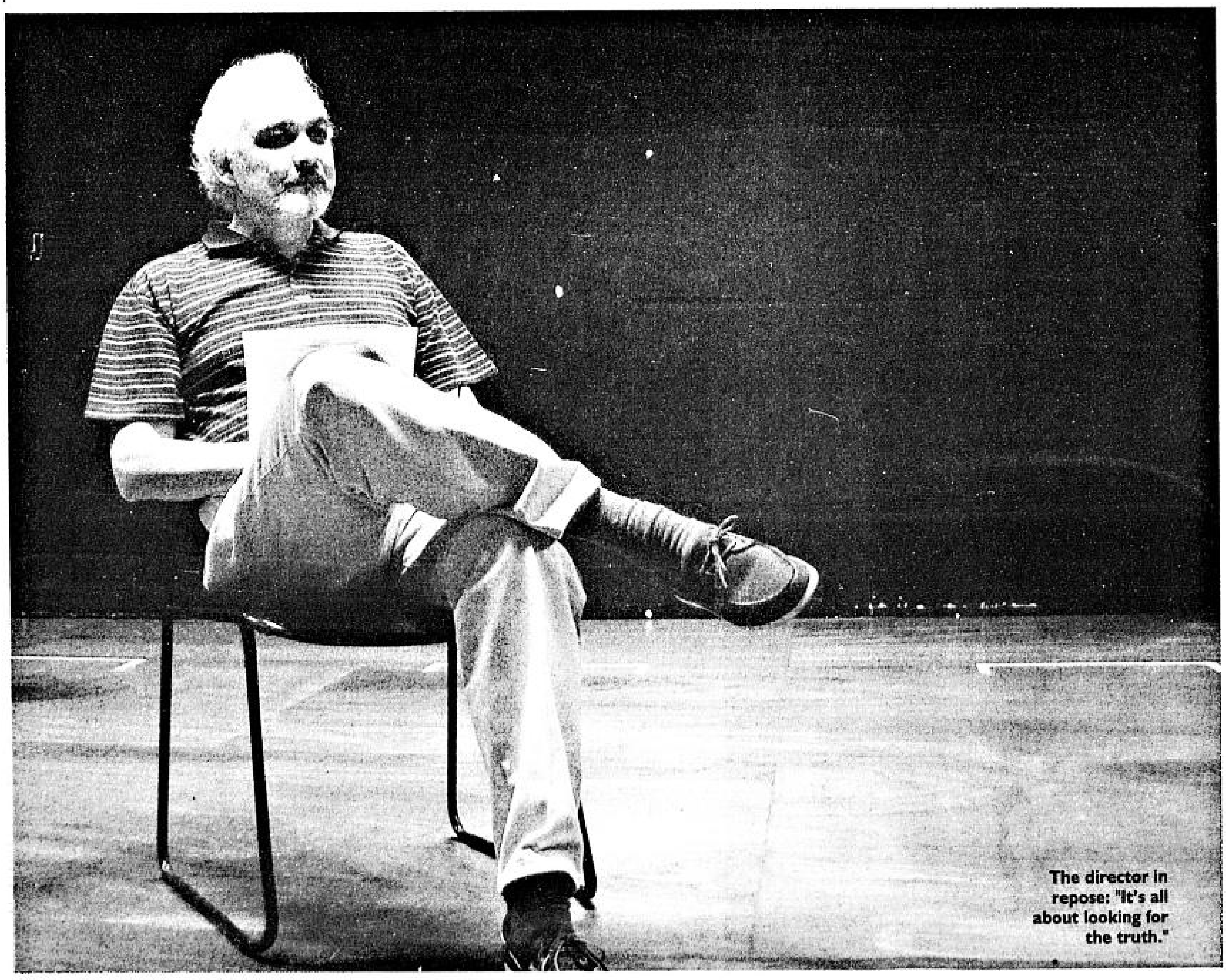

The director in repose: "It's all about looking for the truth."

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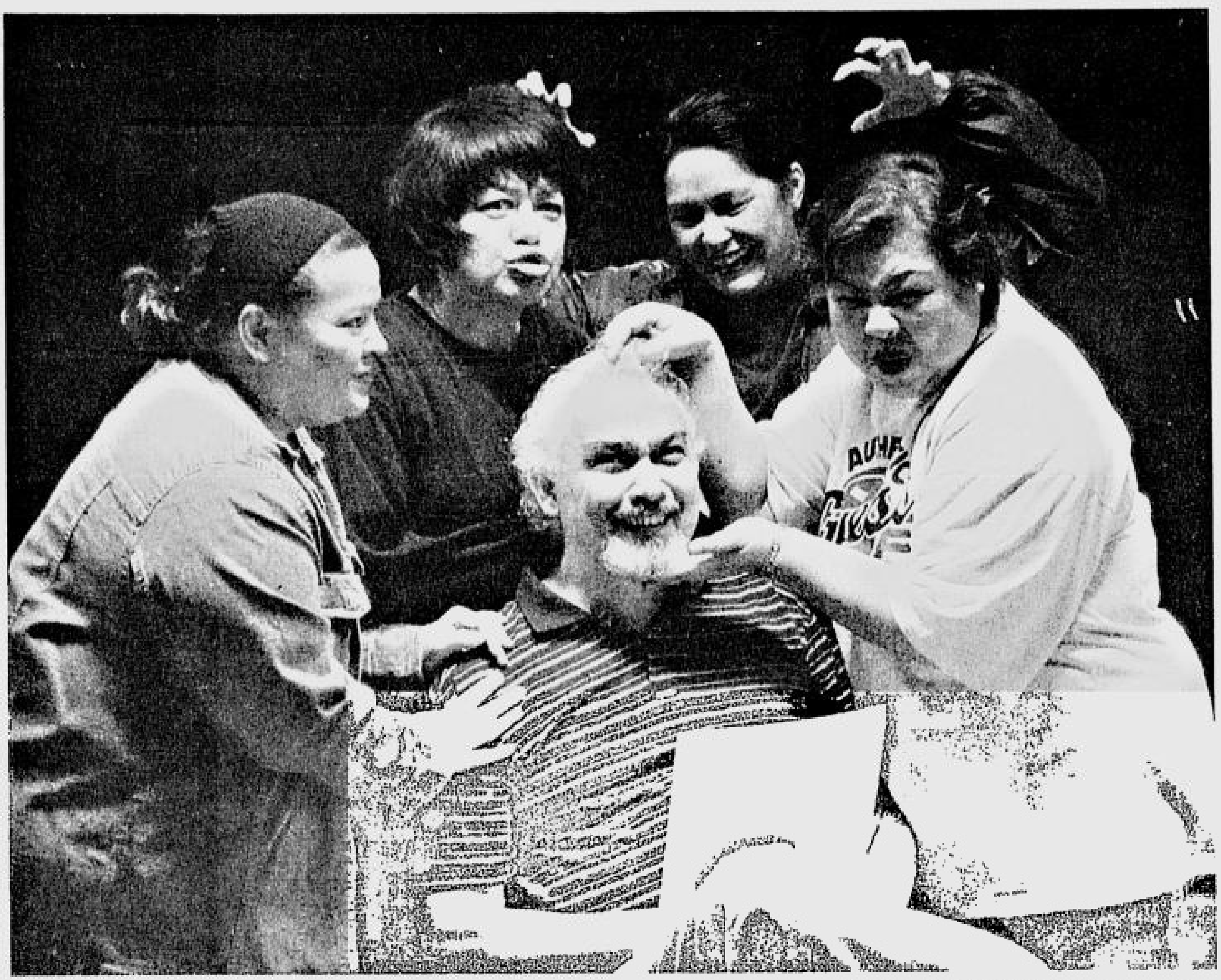
By Alya B. Honasan
Photographs by Ernie U. Sarmiento

Taking On Girls



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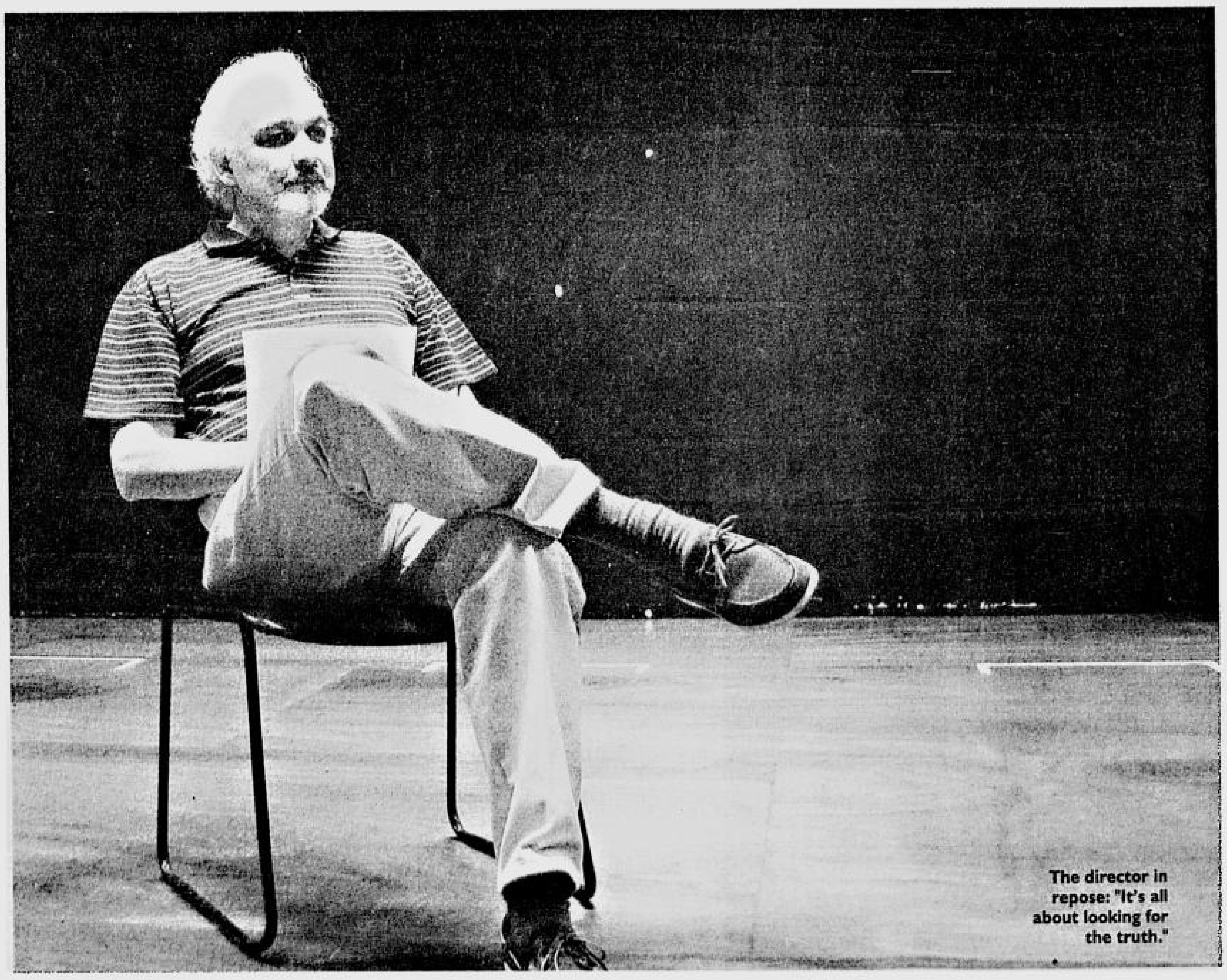

The director in repose: "It's all about looking for the truth."

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Panagbenga 2004

The Blooms and Booms of the Baguio Flower Festival

SMART Buddy Pre-paid

FIESTAmazing!

Forget the fact that the rain hit Baguio on Saturday at Panagbenga, because the crowds sure did! The marching bands played on, the dancers still shuffled their way through the streets to the Baguio Athletic Bowl, and people from all over the country still cheered on under the drizzle. As rain makes the flowers bloom, there was little gloom in the hearts of those that weathered the weather for Panagbenga 2004!

SMART Buddy was proud to have brought the thrills and fun of Panagbenga 2004, another FiestAmazing festival that SMART Buddy will be bringing throughout the country! SMART Night added to the festive atmosphere at the Market Encounter on Friday February 20th, a pumping concert featuring K-24/7 at the Melvin Jones Football Field. Opening acts featured local bands 2600 and Space Flower to add to the pumping Panagbenga beat! This was just to give the crowd a taste of what was to come from SMART Buddy!

Street Fanfare

The sounds of marching bands, drum troops, street dancers, and even some Igorot traditional gangsa reverberated through the streets of the Pine City throughout Saturday. The musical troops marched their way to the Baguio Athletic Bowl to showcase their talent to televiewers around the country. To cool the tongues and fill the bellies of hungry fans, SMART Buddy brought the "Shake Baguio Shake" food and strawberry shake fest, lining the streets with treats on the way to the Baguio Athletic Bowl. To cap off the street party, SMART Buddy sponsored the fireworks competition that boomed throughout the skies of Baguio. Although the day may have been over for the dancing troops, the night was still young!

Party Hardy

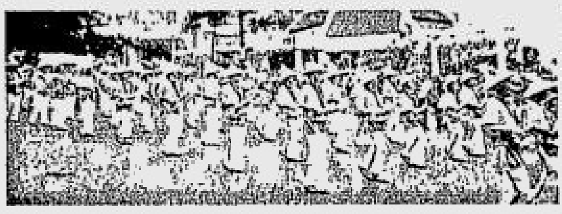
SMART Buddy took to the streets of Baguio, most notably party central Legarda Road. SMART Buddy ruled the road bringing bands and parties to hotspots 18 BC, & Cactus Bar! SMART Buddy also took the party throughout the city for the entire festival, bringing laughs and cheers to local clubs Pilgrims, Chill Out, and Angles SM. SMART Buddy was even giving free drinks to the early SMART subscribers in the local watering holes.

SMART Buddy made it easy to avail of free drinks and more free goodies for new subscribers. The SMART Buddy Shockwave booths were at the Market Encounter on February 21-22 in the Melvin Jones Football Field, and continued on from Session Road from February 23 onwards to the 29th. New subscribers to the SMART Buddy 64K Super Sim2 got an exclusive "Magic Kitchen" collectible. Those that purchased a SMART Buddy Nokia 3315 phone kit or a Smart Buddy Super Sim2 at the Market Encounter got a free henna tattoo!

Float Parade

Sunday morning's improved weather welcomed in the Parade of Floats competition, in conjunction with the city's marching bands and street dancers. Crowds gathered, and children awaited eagerly to catch the fever pitch of the musical march down the rolling streets of Baguio. Despite the early start, there was not a sleepy eye in the crowd as the floral floats filled them with color. SMART Buddy has been proud to be part of the Baguio Flower Festival, bringing to you the sights and sounds of the Pines City's premier festival.

Buddy
Buddy
SMART
Simply Amazing!



Panagbenga 2004

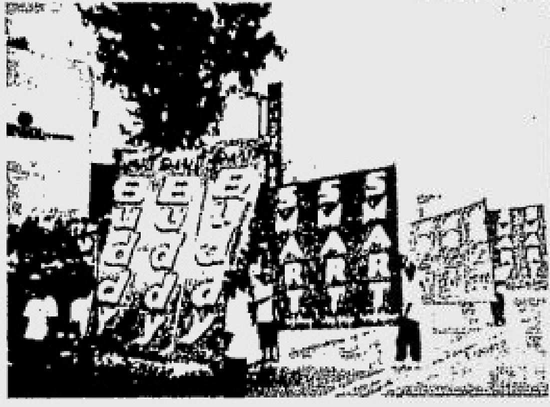
Panagbenga 2004

SMART
SMART

SMART's fireworks competition was a blast

Host Chynna Orteleza makes a winning shot

SMART
Buddy



Pretty faces at Angles Bar

Buddy Pre-paid
OUR WORLD

Chynna partying with the locals

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Eddie

...from page 1

BABANGON
PILIPINAS,
LA KA!

Show of faith: the Araneta Coliseum crowd at Bro. Eddie's proclamation rally

REUTERS

ened to leave the country should his father run for the presidency, while wife Sis. Dory rushed to the Bible for solace and advice), Bro. Eddie says he chose to "expose (his) life to immeasurable risks." He has no interest in politics, he claims. "I just love my country." Why, he didn't even want his sons to enter politics. "I wanted Jon Jon to become a preacher or a businessman, and Joel to be a professional basketball player." His presidential bid is "a call to duty," adds this pastor, quoting Biblical passages about answering "God's call to lead and His promise that righteousness will exult a nation." His record, he says, speaks for itself, unlike his rivals who are "drug lords or political butterflies who'd do anything to get elected. People have been saying of my candidacy: 'Economist, preacher and educator rolled in one.' It's a complete package."

It was this buoyant self-esteem (nay, braggadocio to some) that first brought the young Villanueva to the attention of village lass Adoracion Jose. The son of former Olympic sprinter and retired military man Joaquin Villanueva, Bro. Eddie grew up in Bunlo, Bocaue and first saw Dory while she was leading other parishioners during Mass in their hometown. "She was active in church even then and had a good singing voice," he recalls. "But I heard she was something of a snob, and that became a challenge to me."

Indeed, she was very aloof with men, Sis. Dory admits. When the smitten Villanueva was introduced to her by a mutual acquaintance, she snorted, "*Eh ano ngayon*?" and made for the ladies' room every time she saw the lanky guy waiting for her at the school gate. Two months later, he gave her a bracelet with a heart-shaped metal on which were engraved the words, "Till the End of Time. Ed" on one side, and "Only You" on the other. "It had a dull finish but he said I should polish it," Sis. Dory recounts. "He added that if he caught me polishing the metal, that meant I had accepted his suit." She ignored him.

But once, during a slow day at the cinema restaurant which she tended, Sis. Dory tried polishing the metal "after making sure Eddie wasn't around." To her surprise, the word "Dory" appeared after "Only You." An even bigger surprise was finding her suitor lurking around and catching her in the act of buffing the bracelet. She realized he was her kind of man. "I wanted someone who was much higher than me in wisdom and intelligence. One whom I would follow, no questions asked," says this former teacher. The two eventually became a couple and raised a family of four children: Eduardo Jr., Emmanuel Joel, Eleanor Joni and Edelisha Jovi.

KM leader

Like other students in the late '60s, the young Villanueva became an activist at the Philippine College of Commerce (now PUP). His activism was something that his young wife had to learn to live with. Recounts Sis. Dory, "We were in Baguio for three days for our honeymoon, and two days later, he was sleeping at the picketline of this noodle factory. For breakfast, he'd go home and cart off our provisions for the striking workers." The then University of the Philippines Law student had several brushes with the law as he organized protest actions against factories and a hospital for refusing to accept, without a down payment, a stabbing victim who eventually died.

There were a lot of trials ahead for young wife Dory, aside from the daily strain of trying to make both ends meet by teaching in a private school and selling Tupperware on weekends. There were the shooting spree at a textile mill, a grenade hurled at their home, a black car ominously circling the block where her husband and some workers were picketing, bribery attempts, and a day-long trek over rough roads and rivers when she was four months pregnant to visit her husband who had gone underground in Infanta, Quezon at the onset of martial law.

He could have been arrested again, says Bro. Eddie, "but thankfully, I was arrested by Jesus Christ before it was too late." There was nothing celestial about his conversion, he recounts. His sister Leonor in the US had become a renewed Christian and was tirelessly trying to woo him back to the fold. "But I would sneer and say, we don't need your religion," the JIL leader recalls saying. "What we need are dollars."

At about this time, his parents had become victimized by a landgrabbing syndicate in Bulacan that, Bro. Eddie claims, counted lawyers, fiscals and judges among its members. Though the 20 victims had filed a complaint, then Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile and the Camp Crame officials were slow to investigate. "It had come to a point when I thought I'd join the NPA and just get even with the members of the syndicate one by one," he reveals. "But my sister urged me to pray and read the Bible and one time, I decided to give it a try. *Wala namang mawawala* (I had nothing to lose)." Once he started reading, however, he couldn't stop, Bro. Eddie recounts. He closed the Holy Book at 2 a.m. the next morning. Five days later, all the members of the syndicate were arrested.

Bible study

Convinced by what he describes as "this miracle," Bro. Eddie says he decided to abandon his communist beliefs and instead start a Bible study class at the PUP. "We started with 15 members. Now, 25 years later, the Jesus is Lord ministry counts some three million members in 33 countries," he claims. Such number has earned for the group enough clout to be courted by politicians. FVR, GMA and even former First Lady Imelda Marcos had approached the JIL for a pray-over and political support, and beleaguered President Estrada had sought Bro. Eddie's advice during his impeachment trial.

Despite such power and pelf, the televangelist claims that he remains a poor man. "We still live in a parsonage in Bocaue, Bulacan," he says. "It is church property and we live on my salary as president of the JIL Colleges Foundation." He has no idea how much he earns, he claims, as his wife collects his pay before he can get his hands on it. Indeed, ostentation does not seem to be one of this preacher's vices. At the Bangon Pilipinas makeshift campaign headquarters in Makati ("donated by supporters," he says), visitors are offered a spartan snack of Graham crackers and coffee, tea or water. The presidential candidate uses a much-abused Nokia 3210 phone and a black jacket that has seen better days. His son, the Bocaue mayor, discloses a TV colleague, was personally tending a front yard stall selling the candidate's campaign posters for P50 and P100 each when they came to videotape his home.

Such scant resources have not discouraged him, says Bro. Eddie. While it would take from P2- to P3 billion to run a decent campaign, he says he is running solely on faith, "faith on the people themselves who want change and who will give me the wherewithal." And so far they've done just that, he says, paying for their own campaign shirts, pins and posters. "What else can I give?" he asks. "*Binibigay ko na nga ang buhay ko* (I'm offering my life)." He is running on new politics, says Villanueva. "We're accepting donations but strictly on a no-strings-attached basis. It is when you accept support in return for political favors that you breed the gargantuan corruption that ails the government. Why spend billions when you'll only earn P50,000 a month as president? *Kahibangan yan*! (That's foolish)."

Winnability

Instead of stumping around the countryside, he is banking on his volunteers, JIL members who, Bro. Eddie says, are being trained by the Bangon Pilipinas party to recruit seven more voters. "Let's just say we have two million JIL members. Multiply that by seven and you have a winning number. "*Sobra-sobra ang* winnability *ko* so we don't really go for much fanfare in our campaign. JIL members will offer their lives for me because I have also given my life to them these past 25 years," he says of the support he expects from his ministry. He is also counting on the seven million Born Again registered voters who, Bro. Eddie claims, are behind his candidacy.

Indeed, at his recent proclamation rally at the Luneta, police estimated the crowd at 2.8 million, a turnout that the candidate said demolished perceptions that he did not stand a chance in the elections.

Still, other evangelical leaders have expressed reservations about their 'fellow religious' political path, including pastor Ronnie Rico of the International Teams Philippines which ministers to the urban poor. "I respect Bro. Eddie's decision to run and I have no doubt about his integrity," says the 33-year-old missionary. "But I am not in favor of his presidential bid. You cannot serve two gods at the same time. And for me, the higher and nobler goal is that role given him by God. Being a pastor is an irrevocable role, it is a calling more important than the presidency." And from what he has observed of other Born-Again churches, Pastor Ronnie says no solid vote exists for their fellow evangelist.

A recent pastoral letter from the Philippine Council of Evangelical Churches expressed similar sentiments. While "politically-gifted members are encouraged to run for public office," the letter said "there is a vast difference between prophesying and engaging in partisan politics...The church as an institution must be non-partisan; the kingdom is in the world, but not of the world. Ultimately, the church does its work of transformation primarily through the preaching of the Word and the power of the Holy Spirit at work in human societies."

The issue of Bro. Eddie's religious affiliation has always hounded his presidential bid, raising the spectre of a state religion. He laughs off the fears and widely-held perception. "That's just propaganda against me," he says, adding that he has resigned all his administrative functions at JIL upon announcing his candidacy. "Of course I cannot resign as a believer in Jesus, but as for establishing a state religion, that's utterly baseless and unfounded. I'm a full-blooded democrat, a freedom fighter who has an ingrained love for democracy and freedom. That's what I fought for as an activist.

"I took up political law and I know that one, the government is prohibited from spending public funds to establish a state religion, and two, no religious test is required of anyone in exchange for his civil and political rights."

Dr. Pio Tica, a senior pastor of the Malabon International Baptist Church, agrees. "There is nothing wrong with a person—whether a pastor or bishop—seeking public office unless it's restricted by the policy of the denomination. *Walang masama*. As for violating the separation of church and state, that will not happen because it is prohibited by the laws of the land." The chair of the Prayer Life Seminar, however, took exception to Bro. Eddie's confidence about having a solid evangelical vote. "We're not endorsing anyone, but in a general meeting by the Baptist Council recently, Bro. Eddie did not get the nod of the majority."

National issues

Notwithstanding his chances at the polls, the 57-year-old preacher seems to have thought through his platform and expresses very secular views on a host of national issues:

· **On corruption** (which he says is the number one problem of the country): "I will dismiss erring Cabinet members, promote transparency and limit personal negotiations by using electronic transactions, and raise the salaries of public servants to minimize temptation."

· **On reviving the economy**: "We have to establish strategic growth centers in the countryside, improve our physical infrastructures like roads and bridges, encourage exports and high technology industries like software development, modernize agriculture and complement agrarian reform with entrepreneurial and cooperative movements."

· **On family and marriage**: "We must try to preserve marriages as much as we can, but marriage is a contract between two parties. The best we can do is provide a way out for couples who cannot stay together.

· **On the population problem**: "Family size is a matter that has to be decided by the family concerned. We must, however, educate all families on the value of life and how best they can determine their family size without destroying life."

· **On the death penalty**: "Justice should be applied in all cases, but justice should always be tempered by mercy and the love of God for each of us. The death penalty may have to be imposed in extreme cases but not when there is still a chance to turn over a new leaf."

Despite the odds that make his presidential bid sound as formidable as the search for the Holy Grail, Bro. Eddie remains resolute: "Nobody can stop me. I am beholden only to God and the Filipino people and I fear no one except God and sin." Quoting the Bible yet again, he says, "David defeated Goliath because God was with David."

Such unshakeable faith, but for cynical observers of Philippine politics at least, the man might as well be speaking in tongues. Q

Her kind of man: Sis. Dory with the man she vowed to follow "no questions asked"

JOAN BONDOC

Family matters: (Seated from left): Joni Villanueva-Tugna, Sis. Dory, daughter-in-law Maureen Villanueva with baby Judd, Jovi Villanueva; (foreground) Jose Villanueva III; (standing from left) Sherwin Tugna, Bro. Eddie, Mayor Jon-Jon Villanueva and Rep. Joel Villanueva

This Week

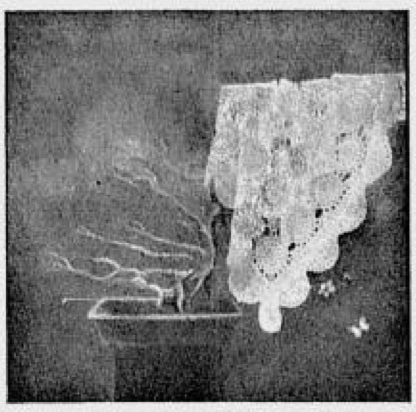
Art

Beijing: Images, an exhibit of black & white photographs by Mary Ann Velas until March 4 at the Alcove Gallery of Filipinas Heritage Library, corner of Makati and Ayala Avenues, Makati City.

Weaving in Revolt, a group exhibit by Allison David, Debbie Del-Pan, Teresita C. Mapua and Molly Yap at the GSIS Museo ng Sining, Financial Center, Roxas Boulevard, Manila until March 9.

Farewell, Inday..., Caring Reyes-Zangenberg's tribute to her sister Inday Cadapan through paintings. Cadapan's final watercolors and acrylics will also be on display at Gallery 139, 3/L, Glorietta 4, Makati City until March 10.

Sinsin features works by Lino Acasio, Saudi Ahmad, Rodel Garcia, John Frank Sabado together with weavers and embroiderers of Aklan at the CCP Bulwagang Fernando Amorsolo until March 14. For details, call 832-3702.



Molly Yap's "Westwind," part of "Weaving in Revolt," on view at the GSIS Museo ng Sining

Stray Bullets, Gary-Ross Pastrana's exhibit of acrylics and collages on paper at the Finale Art Gallery, Artwalk, 4/L, SM Megamall A from March 2-14.

The Wild, Dionisio "Dion" Gonzales' fourth solo exhibit until March 15 at Syano Artlink, 19 Shanghai St., Better Living Subdivision, Parañaque City.

James Jaresco: New Works, an exhibit of new works combining painting with installation until March 31 at the Edge Gallery, Roxas Avenue, Diliman, QC.

Music

The MCO Arts Festival will feature the **Mandaluyong Children's Chorus** in a concert of sacred, children and Filipino music on March 6, 4:30 p.m. at the Francisco Santiago Hall, Equitable PCI Bank Tower I, Makati Avenue, cor. H.V. dela Costa St., Makati City. Ticket price is P300. For details, call 878-4358 to 59.

Cinema

pelikula@titusbrandsma **Women's Cinema** featuring "Ladybird Ladybird" by Ken Loach, "Pangarap Ko, Saluhin Mo" by Emma Orozco, "Baran" by Majid Majidi and "Ages of Lulu" by Bigas Luna on March 13 at 1 p.m. at Titus Brandsma Center (24 Acacia Drive, Cubao, Quezon City). For details, call 721-8677 / 726-7763 (Jofti).

Onstage

Tanghalang Pilipino is staging a contemporary theatrical adaptation of **Hudhud of Dinulawan and Bugan at Gonhadan**. This fusion of chants, dance, music and theater tells the story of Bugan, a 17-year-old Ifugao maiden and a skilled warrior, and her search for love and honor. It will be staged at the Tanghalang Tolentino on Feb. 29, March 6, 7 at 3 p.m. and on March 5 and 6 at 8 p.m. For tickets, call 832-3661 and 832-1125 local 1620 and 1621.

The Singles Theater Workshop presents an all-original production, **Memorandum**, which tackles the concerns of many young, single, professional in Manila (about family, romance, friendship and work). Playdates will be on March 5 and 6, 7:30 p.m. with a matinee on March 6, 4 p.m. at the Tesda Complex, South Superhighway, East Service Road, Taguig, Metro Manila. Tickets at P100. For inquiries, contact 0917-8427372 or 523-5204.

Atbp

Faber-Castell Basic Art Workshop School Tour, a series of free art workshops designed for grade school students will be held at the following schools: March 3 at Sienna College in San Francisco del Monte, QC, and on March 12 at St. Theresa's College, D. Tuazon Street, QC. Students with excellent artworks will be chosen after the worshop. For details, call Kuya Ami at 361-7391 to 92.

In Touch Community Services will hold **Exploration of Self**, a basic 4-day course that provides rich opportunities for exploration, discovery and appreciation of one's personal journey towards wholeness, using lectures and activities influenced by Jungian psychology. It is scheduled for four Thursdays on March 4, 11, 18 and 25, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 48 McKinley Road, Forbes Park, Makati City. For registration, call Susan at 810-6233/ 893-1893.

The Philippine Academy for Instrumental and Choral Music of the Samba-Likhaan Foundation will hold the **6th National Summer Music Camp** from April 12 to May 9 at the Sampaloc Campus of the University of Rizal in Tanay, Rizal. Auditions to select the 100 musicians will be held on March 6 at the Asian Institute for Liturgy and Music, 275 E. Rodriguez Sr. Blvd., QC. Please call 722-5554, 722-8575 or 722-8577 for audition schedule.

Mr. Eduk 2004, a popularity contest open to male Education students, will be held on March 5 at the Benitez Theater, UP College of Education at 6 p.m. with the theme Mr. Eduk Extreme: Fast and Furious. The candidates, in extreme sports attire, will expose their high-speed abilities and fearless persona to own the most coveted title in the College of Education. Visit the booth at the UP College of Education Lobby and cast your votes for your Mr. Eduk 2004. This is a fundraising activity for the UP EDSOC Scholarship Fund.

Christian Bautista, a 2002 participant in Trumpets' Playshop

Learn the keys to advancing your abilities to heal others and yourself through the **Reiki Second Degree Training** on March 7 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the UP College of Nursing, 2/F Seminar Room, Pedro Gil St., Manila. Fee is P2,500 inclusive of materials and certificate. For registration, contact Maddie Gallaga of the Hari Om Tat Sat Hermitage at 726-1007 or (0918) 934-8704.

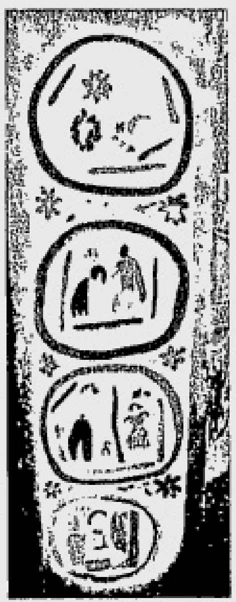
The Departamento ng Filipino at Panitikan ng Pilipinas, University of the Philippines-Diliman, is now accepting applications for its ***Sertipiko ng Malikhaing Pagsulat sa Filipino***, a two-year certificate course in creative writing designed to prepare successful applicants in various forms of writing such as scriptwriting for television, radio and film; essay, poetry, and fiction. Applicants will be evaluated from the sample manuscripts they will submit. Deadline for application is on March 13. Inquiries may be forwarded to the Departamento ng Filipino at Panitikan ng Pilipinas, 2nd Floor, Faculty Center, UP Diliman or call 929-0113 or 924-4899.

Graduates of **Quezon City High School** will hold their **grand alumni homecoming** on April 3, 2 p.m. at the QCHS campus, Scout Ybardolaza, Diliman, Quezon City. Members of Batch 68 are requested to get in touch with Yolie Olivar-Platon at tel. nos. 677-6530 and 0920-6182997, and Jun Veloso at 0916-4089207.

Focuspoint Studio presents a **Basic Studio Lighting Workshop** by Leo Castillo on March 6 and **Fashion Photography** by Ericka Fife on March 7 from 1 to 6 p.m. at 911 Timog St., Barangka Drive, Makati-Mandaluyong. Fee is P750 for each workshop. Please send private email to leocast@info.com.ph for details on registration and securing your slot.

Trumpets Playshop will be holding a summer multimedia workshop from April 12 to June 5. Courses offered are Musical Theater for children, teens and adults, Basic Acting, Individual Voice Lessons, Ensemble Singing, Streetdancing, Sing and Dance, Photography, TV Newscasting, Modeling, Public Speaking/Hosting and Animation. Registration is ongoing. Playshop venues are at Stageworx, 5/L, Shangri-La Plaza Mall; Alabang Town Center; Steps Dance Studio, Building C, Karrivin Plaza, Pasong Tamo Extension, Makatyi and at the Rockwell Club. For inquiries, call Trumpets Playshop at 636-2842 or 633-5010.

Cenacle Retreat House and Center for Spirituality is holding the following seminars and retreats: Listening with the Heart: Praying the Choices in our Life (March 5-7); Discovering God's Dream in my Life (March 5-7); Transformations: Towards the Healing of Your Family Dynamics (March 12-14); Bread: Blessed, Broken and Shared—A Lenten Retreat (March 12-14); Quieting the Soul: 3 Days of Prayer (March 19-21); What Do I Want: Praying the Desires of My Heart (March 26-28); Palm Sunday Weekend Retreat (April 2-4); Holy Week Retreat for Single Young Professionals (April 8-11). Cenacle is located at 59 Nicanor Reyes St., Loyola Heights, QC (tel. nos. 426-0663, 426-0672 or 434-6943).



Caring Reyes-Zangenberg's "Her World," on view at Gallery 139

The Class of 1979 of the high school department of **St. Mary's College of Quezon City** will celebrate its **silver jubilee**, "The Last of the '70s—Saturday Night, The Fever is On!," on July. Members of the Marian Class of 1979 are enjoined to contact Agnes Zapanta-Bengco at 427-2771 or Joy Cirineo at 628-0575.

Pfizer launches the **Heroes for Health Award** to honor five outstanding Filipinos who have undertaken or supported projects that have had significant and sustainable impact on health care in the country, especially for the poor and undeserved sectors. Individuals or organizations can nominate an individual working independently or with an organization. Nomination forms are available at the Pfizer Corporate Affairs Office, DOH Centers for Health Development and Perceptions, Inc. Forms can also be downloaded from www.pfizer.com.ph and www.doh.gov.ph. Deadline for submission is April 30. Nominations can be submitted to Perceptions, Inc., 3/F, Fortune Office Bldg., 160 Legaspi St., Legaspi Village, Makati City or can also be emailed to heroesforhealth@pfizer.com. There will be zonal screenings to be conducted in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao. Awarding ceremonies will be held in August to coincide with the 50th anniversary of Pfizer.

X-manila

The **Midwives Homebirth Conference** will be held on March 12-13 at Teachers' Camp, Baguio City. Interested midwives may contact the Midwives Foundation office at Unit 724 Cityland Shaw Tower, Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City (tel. no. 633-8948). You may also call Paz Gonzaga (0920-6071598) or Cleo Elmedolan (0920-5673729).

Ming Ming, the play of the Integrated Performing Arts Guild about a Moro family in crisis, goes on its last weekend run on March 2 to 6, 7:30 p.m. at the Rooftop Theater of the College of Arts and Social Sciences, MSU-Iligan Institute of Technology in Iligan City.

For this week's bands and schedules call:

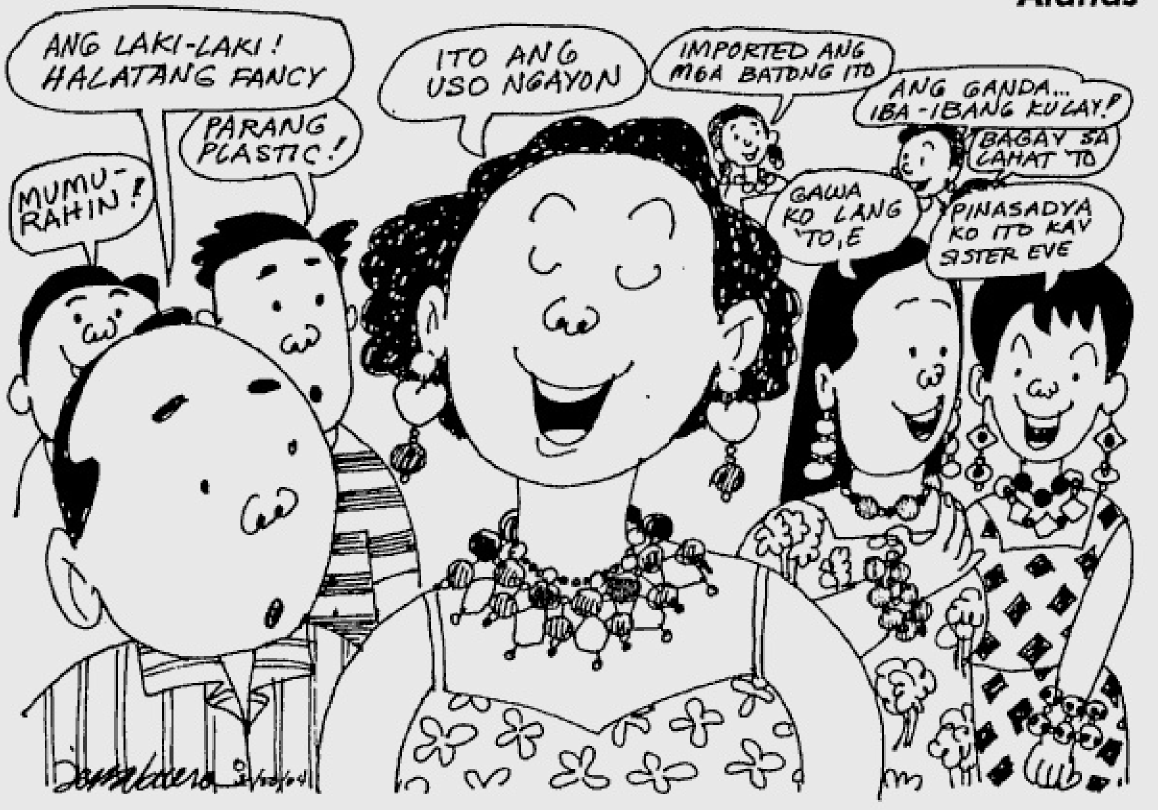
- Hard Rock Café (893-4662-65)
- Virgin Café : QC (926-7982)
- '70s Bistro: 46 Anonas St., QC (922-0492)
- Hobbit House: 1801 Mabini St., Malate, Manila (521-7604)
- Strumm's: El Pueblo, Ortigas (637-3009)

The Sunday Inquirer Magazine welcomes listings of events in and outside Metro Manila. Please send announcements at least two weeks in advance, and include contact numbers for inquiries on schedules

Pinoy Nga!

By Jess Abrera

Alahas


ANG LAKI-LAKI! HALATANG FANCY
MUMU-RAHIN!
PARANG PLASTIC!
ITO ANG USO NGAYON
IMPORTED ANG MGA BATONG ITO
ANG GANDA... IBA-IBANG KULAY!
BAGAY SA LAHAT 'TO
GAWA KO LANG 'TO, E
PINASADYA KO ITO KAY SISTER EVE

LoveNotes

By Joe D' Mango

Torn Between Two Loves

Mark has proposed but he doesn't know about Bryan, whose marriage has been annulled. Now I have to choose between the two of them

Dear Joe,

I'm Mavie, 26, and I work in an international company in Manila. Mark, whom I met through a common friend, has been my boyfriend for eight months now. Though our families and friends think we're lucky to have found each other, not everything is as it seems.

You see, I have had another boyfriend all this time. Bryan was married when I met him two years ago but that did not stop him from courting me. He said he and his wife were going to file for annulment. I loved Bryan enough to wait for his marriage to be annulled, even when there were times when his wife called me names.

I've had suitors all this time but it wasn't until I met Mark that my problem started.

I was very honest with Bryan about Mark and he forgave me, so we are still together. But I can only be with one of them. The trouble is, Bryan is always threatening to commit suicide every time I tried to break up with him. In fact, he's had several accidents because he's always been drunk.

As for Mark, as I get to know him better, I'm having second thoughts about him. Sometimes he won't talk to me for days, making me feel unworthy of him and then suddenly, he's this sweet person that I loved from the start. During these fights, I turn to Bryan because with him, I feel so loved and accepted.

Now that Bryan's marriage has been annulled, he's just waiting for me to choose between him and Mark. Mark has proposed to me and I've accepted. He's been planning for the big day this year and has bought a house for us. Bryan, on the other hand, is expecting me to leave the country with him to start a new life.

What should I do? Though Bryan is trying to act normal, I know he is on the verge of doing something harmful. Mark, on the other hand, has no clue about Bryan, and I know that if he finds out, he'll leave me. So who do I choose? Please help me before it's too late.

Sincerely,
Mavie

Dear Mavie,

It seems that you have been trapped in a really difficult situation. Committing yourself to two men at the same time is a very delicate matter especially if they are both serious about you. The hardest part of being torn between two people you love is having to choose just one. Who would it be? The man who knows everything or the man from whom you've kept a devastating secret?

Mavie, I've always been a very strong advocate of honesty in relationships. I believe that only when we can openly express who we are, good or bad, can we truly say that we are secured in a relationship. Most relationships are burdened by misdeeds either purposely or unintentionally done. When we find out about it, we feel cheated, but at the same time, it's a great and conclusive test to our relationship. Our reaction and eventual acceptance or rejection of our erring partner will spell out clearly where our relationship stands.

Mavie, I believe that Mark deserves to know the truth even if it hurts. You cannot lie to him forever. This should also give you a clearer picture of his true feelings for you. Whether he accepts or denies you would depend on how much he truly loves you. Bryan, in a way, has already proven that because accepted you in spite of your having a relationship with another man.

Mavie, ask God for a sign. The man who stays is the man who loves you. If they both stay, then you have to make a choice. One of them is bound to get hurt but that's just the way it is. Sincerely ask for forgiveness for your misdeed but don't carry the burden of guilt that they're bound to put on your shoulder for hurting them. They are responsible for their own lives and well being. Whatever they do out of their devastation is their choice, not yours.

Mavie, there's a way out of this mess. You just have to be honest and openly accept the consequences of your actions. There is one person meant for you and you will know it only when you lay down your cards and reveal who you really are. Q

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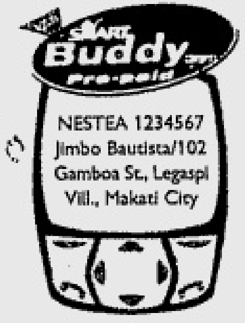
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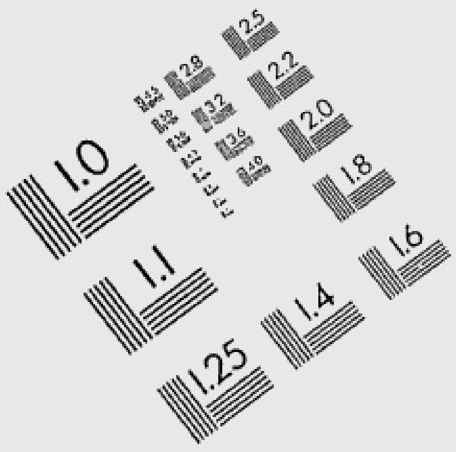
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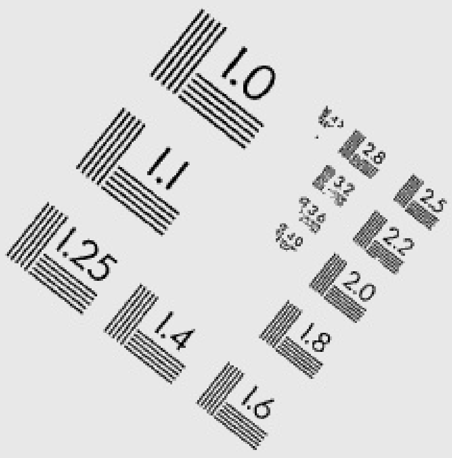
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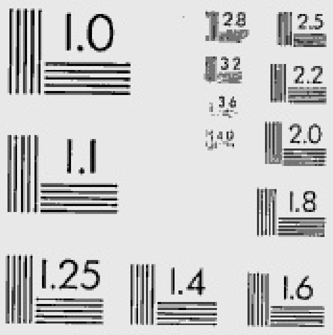
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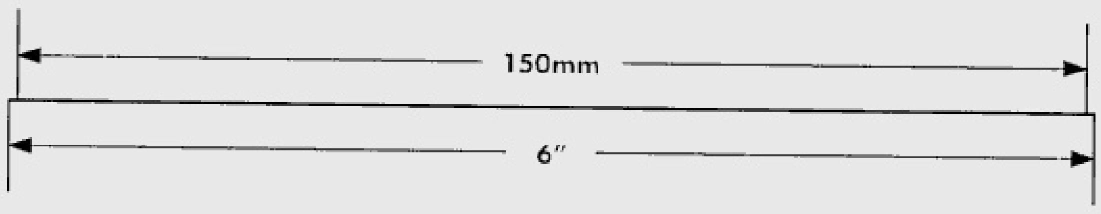

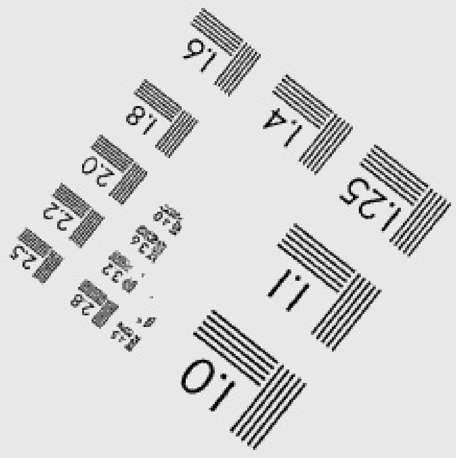
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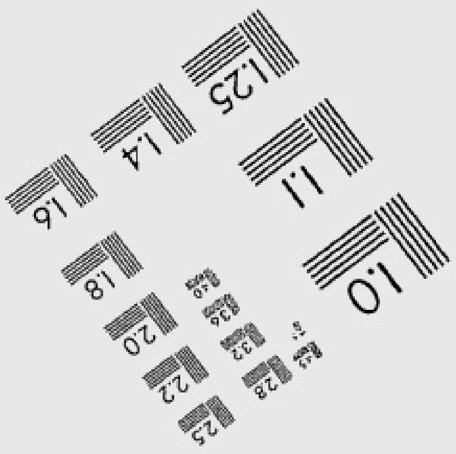
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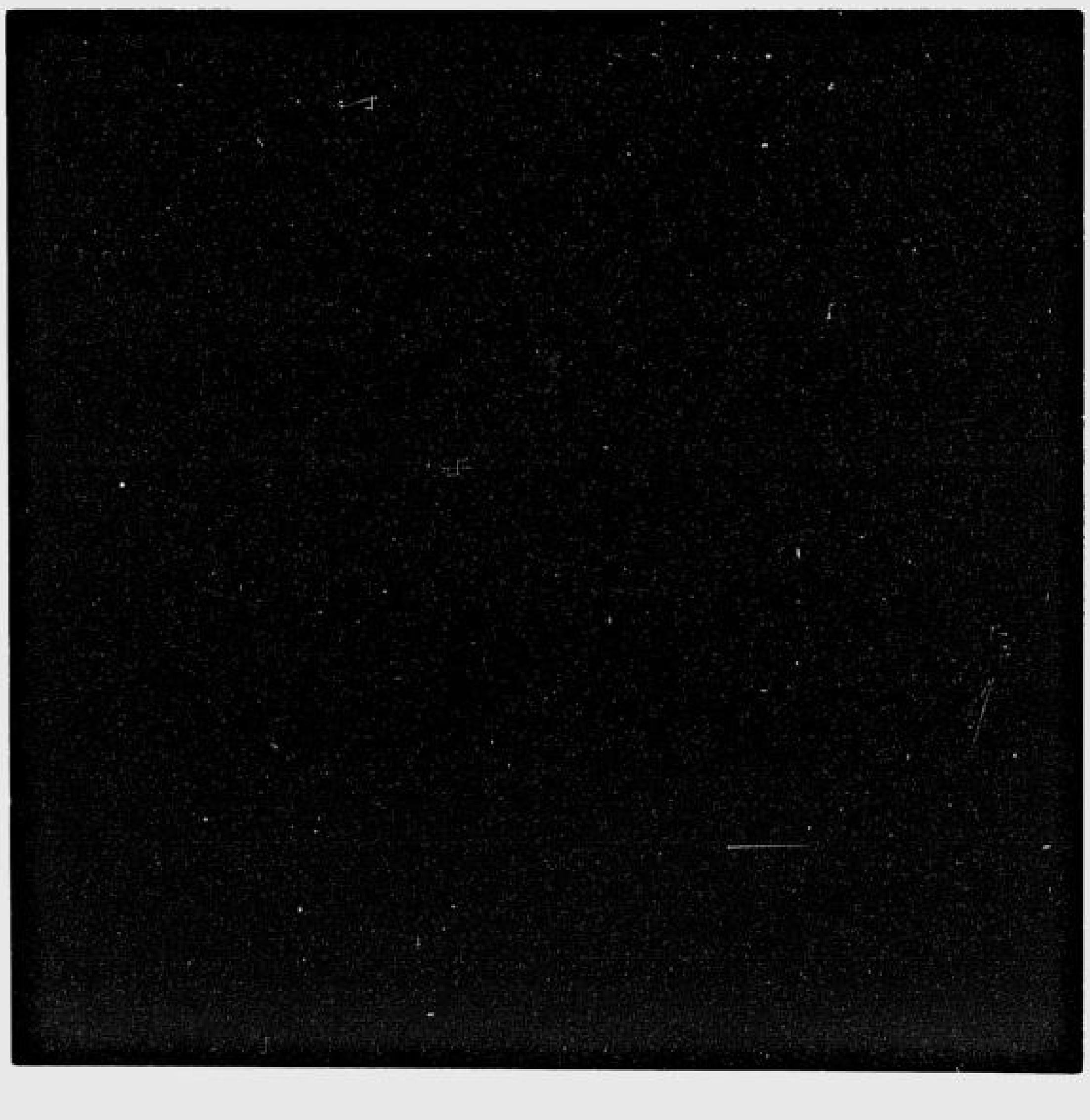

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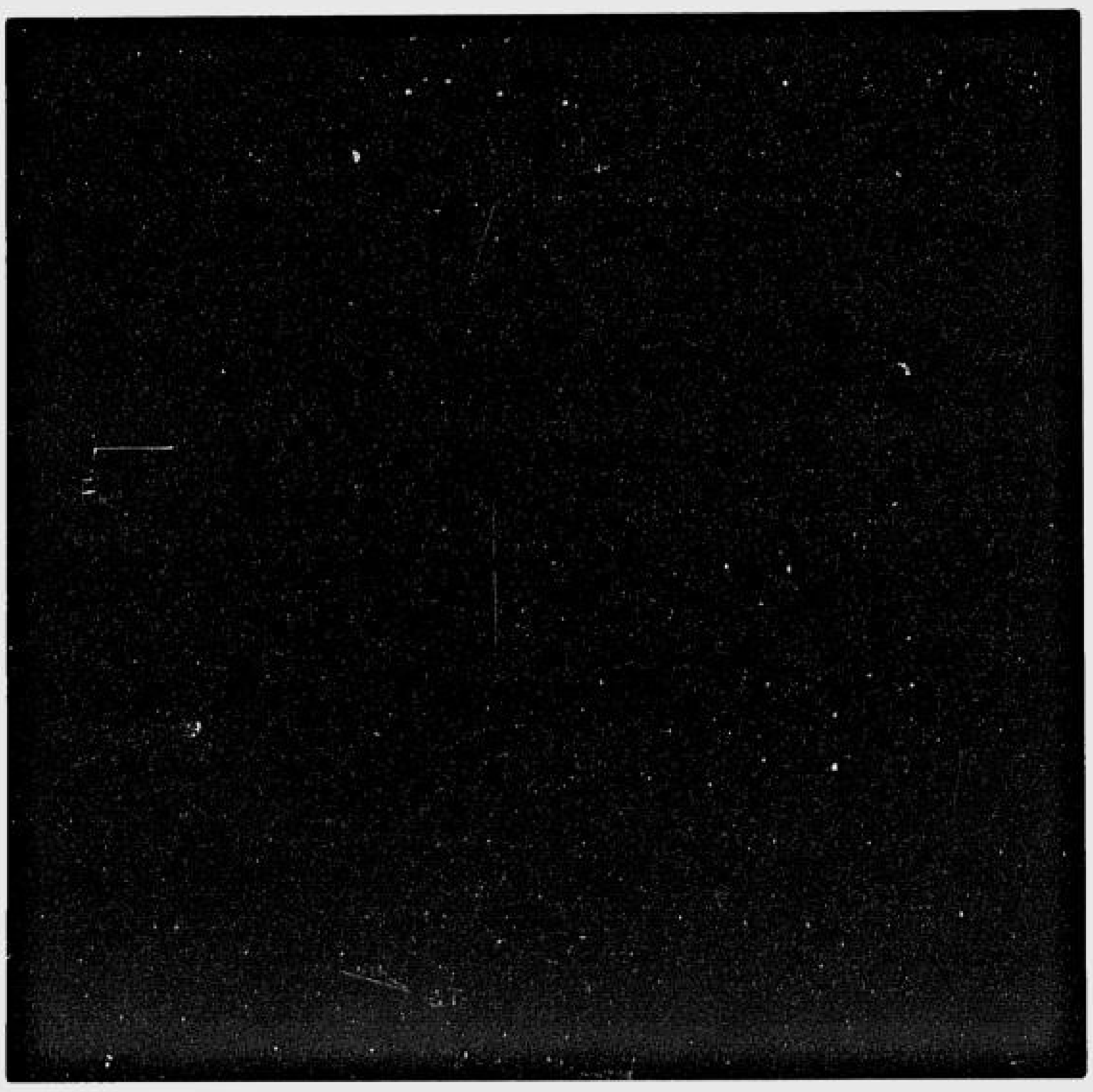

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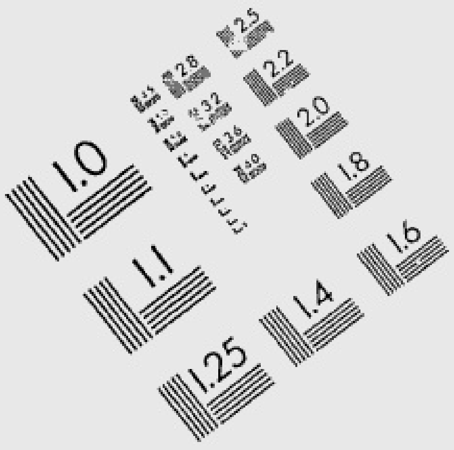
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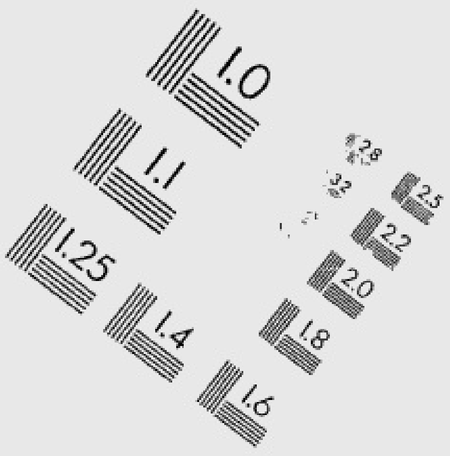
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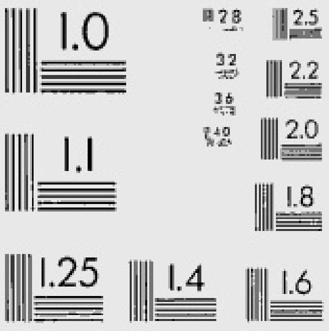
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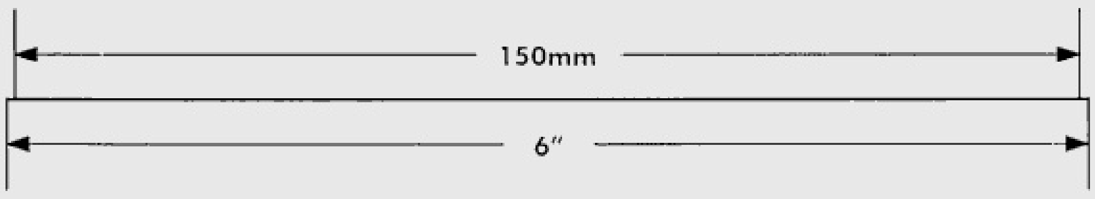

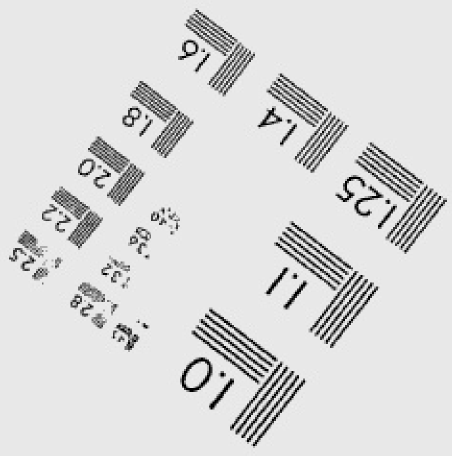
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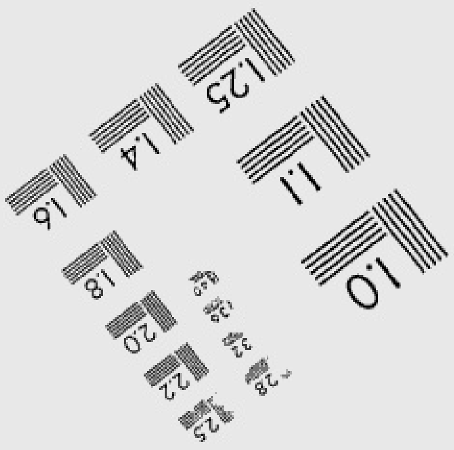
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